

AHA Directors' Manual



updated 7/11/2025

Table of Contents

Vision Statement.....	3
The Mission of the Arabian Horse Association	3
Welcome to the Team!	4
Director Log-in/Boardable	5
Code of Ethics, Confidentiality, and Conflict of Interest Policy	5
Represent AHA and the Membership	8
Duties	9
Reimbursement	10
Official Job Description	11
Event Approval.....	14
Board of Directors Meetings	15
Membership Involvement.....	19
Remember When—Our History.....	19
Inside the AHA Corporate Office	22
Executive	22
Business Technology (BT)	22
Membership & Registry Services	23
Competitions & Convention	23
National Events & Marketing	24
Judges & Stewards Commissioner	25
AHA Financials.....	26
Programs & Promotions	29
Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes (ABS) Program.....	29
National Breeding / In - Hand Futurity Program	29
National Performance Futurity/Maturity Program	29
Horse Achievement Award Program.....	30
Amateur Achievement Award Program	30
High Point of the Year Horse Achievement Award	30
High Point of the Year Amateur Achievement Award.....	30
Arabian Recreational Riding Program	31
Recognition Awards	31
President & Director Recognition Awards	31
Equine Recognition Awards.....	31
Member Recognition.....	32
Member Organization Recognition	34
Member Award Programs	34
Show Me the Paperwork!	35
Membership Application*	35
Registration	35
Competition Recognition*.....	35
Convention*	35
National Events	35
Horse Enrollment Application*	35
In- Utero Foal Program Application*.....	36
Open Qualifying Show/ Event Results Form	36

Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby	36
Equitation Medal Order Form	36
Youth Activities*	36
Judges & Stewards*	36
General Information	36
Arabian Recreational Riding Program*	36
Distance Programs*	37
Arabian Horse DataSource*	37
Outreach Programs*	37
Policies to Govern the Business Operations of AHA	38
Category I: Global Ends Statement	38
Category II: Management Limitations	38
Category III: Executive Committee-Management Delegation	38
Category IV: Governance Process	38

Vision Statement

Arabian Horse Association exists for growth in the number of people having a passion to own and enjoy the Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse

The Mission of the Arabian Horse Association

Is to promote:

- Growth in the interest in, and demand for the Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse
- Preservation of the integrity of the breed
- Increased participation in activities involving the Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse
- Recognition by the equine industry and general public about the value and attributes of the Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse
- Ensure services and benefits that are valuable and convenient for the AHA Members

In addition:

- The Arabian Horse Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origins (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members and volunteers.
- AHA supports the effort of US Equestrian and the US Center for SafeSport to provide a program, information, and a reporting and investigative process to protect our Junior Exhibitors and Amateurs from abuse, including sexual, emotional, and physical misconduct, as well as bullying, harassment, and hazing.

Welcome to the Team!

Welcome to the Board of Directors of the Arabian Horse Association! As a member of its policy-making body, you will play a major role in the growth and development of the Association and the Arabian, Half-Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian industry. You are responsible for and represent the ownership of AHA, which is the entire membership (club members and non-club members.) The AHA Management Team extends a big welcome to you as you join the current Board members of AHA. We look forward to working together to meet our goals.

Updates - You will receive periodic updates from the President and the AHA office to keep you apprised of the latest information.

Department Senior Directors and Staff will attend the Board Meetings and be available to answer your questions and provide facts from our departments. Refer to [Inside the AHA Corporate Office](#) to identify the appropriate team for your information request.

Hotel Reservations - Information on the host hotel will be sent to you in advance; staff will gladly help you with hotel reservations for Board meetings in Colorado.

Key Dates - To assist you in planning your year, you will find key dates for National Events on the AHA website and on the back inside cover of the AHA Handbook. Board meeting dates will be posted on the AHA website with agendas and supporting documents in Boardable. Contact Committee staff liaisons for meeting dates for specific committees/commissions.

AHA Handbook

The AHA Handbook has the AHA Bylaws along with the rules for shows, events, and programs. Also, you will find the Committees and names for the Chair, Vice-Chair, Board and Staff Liaison. There is a Fee Schedule in the back of the 2025 AHA Handbook for a quick reference of fees and deadlines for most of the AHA programs and an Index.

Reference Manual – this Director's Manual is filled with information that may be of benefit to you as an AHA Director. Happy reading!

AHA Website

The AHA Website has hot news for AHA members and forms to download for quick entry into AHA programs. The latest statistics for the High Point Achievement Horse and lots of other information are available at the click of a mouse.

Once again, Welcome to the AHA Team!

AHA Senior Directors

Director Log-in/Boardable

- As a Director of AHA, you will be provided with a specific password that will grant access to items and tasks only available to Directors of AHA. Some of the items and tasks will be specific to Regional Directors, such as club membership lists and the event approval process.
- AHA uses Boardable for meeting agendas and related documents. You will be provided instructions on how to access Boardable.
- Access to director only areas is not to be shared as information contained is often confidential.
- Other items that may or may not be available to all members include:
 - Active Resolutions Manual - this Manual has all the Resolutions that are active from 1967 forward. These rules must be amended or rescinded by Resolution. Rules not in this Manual were passed by the AHA Board of Directors and can be changed by the Board.
 - Board Minutes - These are the minutes of each Board meeting and of the Annual Convention meeting of the corporation and are kept in an official format in the Corporate Books for future reference ([BOD minutes from 2003 to current](#) can be found on the website).

Code of Ethics, Confidentiality, and Conflict of Interest Policy

Introduction

- As association representatives (officers, directors, committee members, licensed officials, volunteers, and staff) of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA), and because we operate in the public spotlight, we are expected to conduct our affairs on a basis consistent with the great trust that has been placed in us.
- This requires our behavior to conform to the highest ethical principles. For these reasons, the AHA requires its association representatives to conduct business with integrity, to maintain a standard of ethical conduct consistent with the mission statement of the AHA.
- Furthermore, because the appearance of impropriety can be just as damaging as actual impropriety, conduct, which appears to be improper, is also unacceptable. (See definitions below.)
- Accordingly, association representatives are required to comply with the AHA Code of Ethics, USEF Safe Sport Policy, U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, and Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies when representing or participating in AHA activities. (See AHA Chapter 3, Code of Ethics and Sportsmanship and USEF Safe Sport)

Additionally, association representatives should at all times

- Conduct all dealings with honesty and fairness.
- Respect the rights of all employees to fair treatment and equal opportunity, free from discrimination or harassment of any type.

- Know, understand, and comply with the laws, regulations, and codes of conduct governing the conduct of AHA competitions and business.
- Ensure that all transactions are handled honestly and recorded accurately.
- Protect information that belongs to AHA, or donors, sponsors, suppliers, and fellow workers.
- Avoid conflicts of interest, both real and perceived.
- Never use AHA assets or information for personal gain.
- Recognize that even the appearance of misconduct or impropriety can be very damaging to the reputation of the AHA and act accordingly.
- Adhere to the USEF Safe Sport Policy, U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, and Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies.

Confidentiality

- Officers, Directors, and Committee Members shall comply with Rule CBP 102.3 which states, "When designated confidential, any information or material given or distributed to the officers, directors and/or committee members (as defined in Chapter 5) of AHA shall be kept confidential and not further passed on or disseminated."
- When any written or oral communication contains the statement "Confidential" in the heading or beginning of the communication, all the information contained in such communication is "designated confidential" in accordance with AHA Rule CBP 102.3.
- Items marked "confidential" in one committee will not be shared to others outside of said committee even though the outside party has signed an AHA Confidentiality Agreement.

Conflicts of Interest

- These principles provide a framework of integrity for interactions with or on behalf of AHA. However, given the unique makeup of the AHA family, more in-depth questions may arise regarding conflicts of interest.
- AHA defines a conflict of interest as any personal or financial (both direct and indirect) relationship including relationships of family members (see definition below) that could influence or be perceived to influence your objectivity when representing or conducting business for, or on behalf of AHA.
- AHA defines "family" for the purpose of this policy only as follows: spouse, parent, child or spouse of a child, brother, sister, spouse of a brother or sister, a cohabiting companion, or any other individual with a significant familial or familial-like relationship.
- AHA defines a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest as whenever others may reasonably infer from the circumstances that a conflict exists. Because the appearance of impropriety can be just as damaging as actual impropriety, conduct that appears to be improper must be disclosed so that the appropriate AHA entity may determine whether such substantial appearance of a conflict is deemed to be a prohibited conflict of interest. For these reasons, an individual must recuse himself/herself from participating in the AHA activity giving rise to the substantial appearance of a conflict of interest unless and until it is determined by the appropriate AHA entity that no conflict exists.

- Following appointment or election, each AHA Board member, Budget and Finance Committee member, Ethical Practice Review Board member, Internal Audit Committee member, Market Development and Promotion Committee member, Probable Cause Panel member, or any AHA Commission member, must fulfill his/her obligation to disclose any conflict by submitting the appropriate form to the Executive Director. These Conflict-of- Interest forms will be in effect forever or until updated as situations change, then the updated forms will supersede the previous forms and will be in effect forever. After fulfilling terms on the board, committees and commissions, all confidential matters that are provided to you shall remain confidential forever. Any disclosures that you make on these forms will also remain confidential unless disclosure is required by law or the EPRB process.
- Inappropriate hospitality or gift giving between individuals can also create a conflict of interest:
AHA defines inappropriate hospitality as the offering or receiving of accommodations, tours, event tickets, entertainment, meals, or other similar personal benefits except as specifically provided for by applicable policies.
- Similarly, AHA prohibits the receipt or giving of personal gifts except for items of nominal value such as coffee mugs, hats, pins, etc. unless specifically provided for by applicable policies and rules as outlined in USEF (for Amateurs) and the AHA Employee Handbook.
- Questions regarding the application of AHA's hospitality and gift policies must be addressed to the Executive Director.

Enforcement

- In the furtherance of their official duties, all Association representatives, including staff, licensed officials and volunteers shall be treated with courtesy and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them. (Res. 17- 18).
- Any person who violates or condones the violation of the Code of Ethics or this agreement is subject to disciplinary measures, which may include termination of membership, employment, and expulsion from the board or committee.
- The Executive Director shall review all violations of the Code of Ethics and, if appropriate, (a) as to officers, directors and committee members, refer the matter to the Probable Cause Panel for determination if the matter should be forwarded to the Ethical Practice Review Board for any disciplinary action that should be taken, or (b) as to staff, sanction the individual in accordance with AHA's standard employment practices.
- This code serves as a framework for ethical conduct but does not cover every situation. If you are unclear about the requirements of this code, please consult your supervisor or contact the Executive Director at AHA as follows:

Arabian Horse Association

6030 Greenwood Plaza Blvd, Ste 100
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Telephone: (303) 696-4500

Fax: (303) 696-4599

Represent AHA and the Membership

General Responsibility

- As a member of AHA's Board of Directors, the majority of your responsibility as a Director is your fiduciary responsibility to AHA. Additionally, it is to represent the entire membership and to represent the Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse interests, and promotion.
- There are many different viewpoints in AHA and sound reasons to support each of them. In evaluating a position, keep in mind that the Board of Directors are responsible to ALL members and must place the welfare of the total Association ahead of other considerations. Each decision you make will impact the future growth potential of AHA.
- Each Director is unique and contributes special competencies and talents to the successful management of AHA. It is important, therefore, that you express your viewpoints and share your opinions on issues before the Board of Directors. This Association will benefit from the areas of expertise you bring to the Board.
- Criticism can be important to the growth and development of the AHA—providing it is of a constructive nature. Consider the needs and feelings of others. Deal with issues and facts, not personalities. Also exercise the utmost caution in posting on social media as a Director since your comments may not be reflective of the entire AHA Board of Directors.
- As a Director, you will find that much importance is attached to your remarks, both on and off the record. Discretion protects credibility and discourages rumors, gossip, and unjustified criticism. You will be required to complete the "Code of Ethics, Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest Form" prior to receiving any communication (whether by written/electronic means or in a closed session of the Board of Directors).

Be Well-Informed

- Difficult, but essential to your job as director, is the ability to keep abreast of the many challenges and issues facing AHA. The following resources are in place to help keep you informed:
- The executive director and staff are qualified and eager to share their working knowledge and expertise with you. It is essential that the staff and the board work as a cohesive team. When communicating with staff, protocol requires that the executive director be kept informed of communications.
- Official documents of AHA that explain previous policies and decisions, such as the articles of incorporation, bylaws, code of ethics, resolutions, board minutes and motions are great reference resources.
- Correspondence and background materials from the AHA office.
- Information provided to you as a board member in Boardable. Boardable is our official platform for meetings and documents.

Communication

- Open two-way communication is imperative. As an elected Director you should make a dedicated effort to attend AHA National Events along with a visit to each Member organization in your Region during the year.

Duties

Responsibilities of your role as an AHA Director:

- Make nominations for boards, committees, and commissions elected by the Board of Directors and the Convention delegates.
- Make recommendations to the President for positions on non-elected committees. These should be submitted prior to the Convention to allow the President to make appointments and have the committee list published as soon after convention as possible.

Responsibilities of your role as a Regional Director:

- Act as the Chair of the Board of Delegates from your Region. At least one meeting of the Board of Delegates shall be held annually.
- Represent your Region as a Voting Delegate. Each past Director may serve as a Voting Delegate-At-Large for a period equal to the term of office served as a Director.
- Approval of all AHA Recognized events within the Region (note: Auto approval of established events will occur unless the AHA office is notified to suspend this procedure).
- Oversee the conduct of your Regional Championship Horse Show. Make certain the acceptable business practices are followed, necessary insurance is acquired, and all other related matters are carried out in a proper manner (such as SafeSport sanctions/ineligibility lists are followed). Dates for the following year's Regional shows are due on the last day of the Convention, or a \$100 fine will be assessed.
- Make recommendations on all applications for affiliated member organizations originating from your Region.

Responsibilities of your role as a Director-At-Large:

- Shall represent the interest of the purebred Arabian Horse and seek to aid, promote, and foster the preservation and use of the purebred Arabian Horse and the Arabian breed and to engage in all activities and undertakings incidental to or designed to further promote these objectives.

Reminder of Eligibility

- Each person seeking office of a Regional Director must first qualify as a Member in good standing of an Affiliated Member Organization and with AHA in that Region

(According to the AHA Bylaws). See the current [AHA Bylaws](#) for complete information about elections, term limits, etc.

Policies to Govern the Business Operations of AHA

- An extensive list of current [AHA Policies](#) is at the end of this Directors' Manual. It is vitally important that you review all of these policies.

Reimbursement

- The Regional Directorship is not a salaried position. Your individual region or you as Director will be responsible for all expenses incurred while performing your role as Regional Director.
- The Director-At-Large reimbursement policies differ from the Regional Directors.
- All lunches provided at AHA Board of Director meetings will be paid for by the regions. See table for expense reimbursement:
- See also [Policy 2.8 Compensation & Benefits](#)

Expense Reimbursement Eligibility Table

	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Board AHA</u>	<u>Board PAT</u>	<u>E.C. AHA</u>	<u>E.C. PAT</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Volunteers</u>
Travel								
Airfare - limited to the value of a coach fare.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mileage - current IRS mileage standard rate	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Note: Mileage in lieu of airfare will be limited to the value of a coach ticket	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Car Rental	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lodging/Meals								
Hotel	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meals	Up to \$50/day - unless per diem taken	Lunches provided at Board meetings -other No	No	No	Contracted volunteer at shows only			
Laundry	For trips >/= 4 nights	No	For trips >/= 4 nights	For trips >/= 4 nights	For trips >/= 4 nights	For trips >/= 4 nights	For trips >/= 4 nights	For trips >/= 4 nights
Misc Other								

Only for legitimate AHA related business purposes, authorized and pre-approved by President and/or Executive Committee. See * below	Yes							
Per Diem - \$50/day	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
* Some expenses not specified in this policy may be eligible for reimbursement if directed by President and approved by EC.								
Revised April 24, 2023								

Official Job Description

Basic Function

- The Director is responsible for providing broad direction to AHA, contributing time and talent. Be knowledgeable of the publication of the Guidebook of Directors for Non-Profit Corporations so you are aware of the duty of care and loyalty.
- "If a director is elected by one or more members in order to be able to represent the viewpoint of such members, the director may have-or feel- a duty to such member or members, to make sure that such viewpoint is in fact represented on the board. However, such duty to articulate a member's individual perspective does not change the director's obligation to make decisions and take other actions in accordance with the corporation's best interest-irrespective of any individual member interests."

Responsibilities and Authority

- Within the limits of the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, applicable law, and policies established, Directors shall be responsible for accomplishing and have commensurate authority to perform the duties set forth below.

Acting as a Group, with One Voice, Directors Shall:

- Establish long and short-term goals and objectives for AHA to achieve. Set and periodically review policies. Update the strategic plan annually.
- Provide the Executive Director with the resources needed to accomplish the established Vision and Mission and to carry out the strategic plan.
- Approve and monitor the annual budget.
- Maintain the Board of Directors by recruiting new members as retiring members leave the Board.
- Ensure financial stability of AHA by approving motions that make AHA financially sound and by reviewing AHA fees annually and approving changes accordingly.
- Enforce the Code of Conduct among the members, volunteers, and employees of AHA.
- Support the Executive Director in the administration and enforcement of Association policies and procedures.

Acting as Individuals, Directors Shall:

- Attend and actively participate in Board meetings providing expertise and knowledge to positively move our Association forward.
- Be fiscally responsible to AHA and carry out responsibilities as a team member for the overall good of AHA.
- Consider the needs and feelings of others. Deal with issues and facts, not personalities.
- Become knowledgeable about AHA and its activities and represent it as a spokesperson to individuals and groups.
- Solicit volunteers, donors, and other support for AHA.
- Support AHA with donations of time.
- Nominate qualified and dedicated individuals for boards, committees, and commissions elected by the Board of Directors and the convention delegates.
- Make recommendations to the President for non-elected Committees.
- Promote Arabian, Half-Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian horses.
- Serve as public representatives of AHA.
- Consult with the Executive Director and Executive Committee.
- Become knowledgeable of and maintain a proper relationship with staff.

Acting as Individual Regional Directors Shall:

- Represent the entire membership of the Region by actively participating in club and regional meetings. Call and oversee at least one meeting of the Board of Delegates, which shall be held annually.
- Represent his/her Region as a Voting Delegate. Each past Director may serve as a Voting Delegate-At-Large for a period equal to the term of office served.
- Approve recognized event (distance rides and shows) dates for AHA.
- Make recommendations on all applications for affiliated member organizations (clubs) originating from his/her Region.
- Maintain a climate that attracts, keeps, and motivates top-quality Directors.
- May, in some instances, pay for their own expenses in areas not traditionally covered by the Region.
- Below is the view you will see in the Region Management Section of your Home Page:
Region Management

[Non-affiliated Member Report](#)

[Expired Member Report](#)

[All Clubs Roster Report](#)

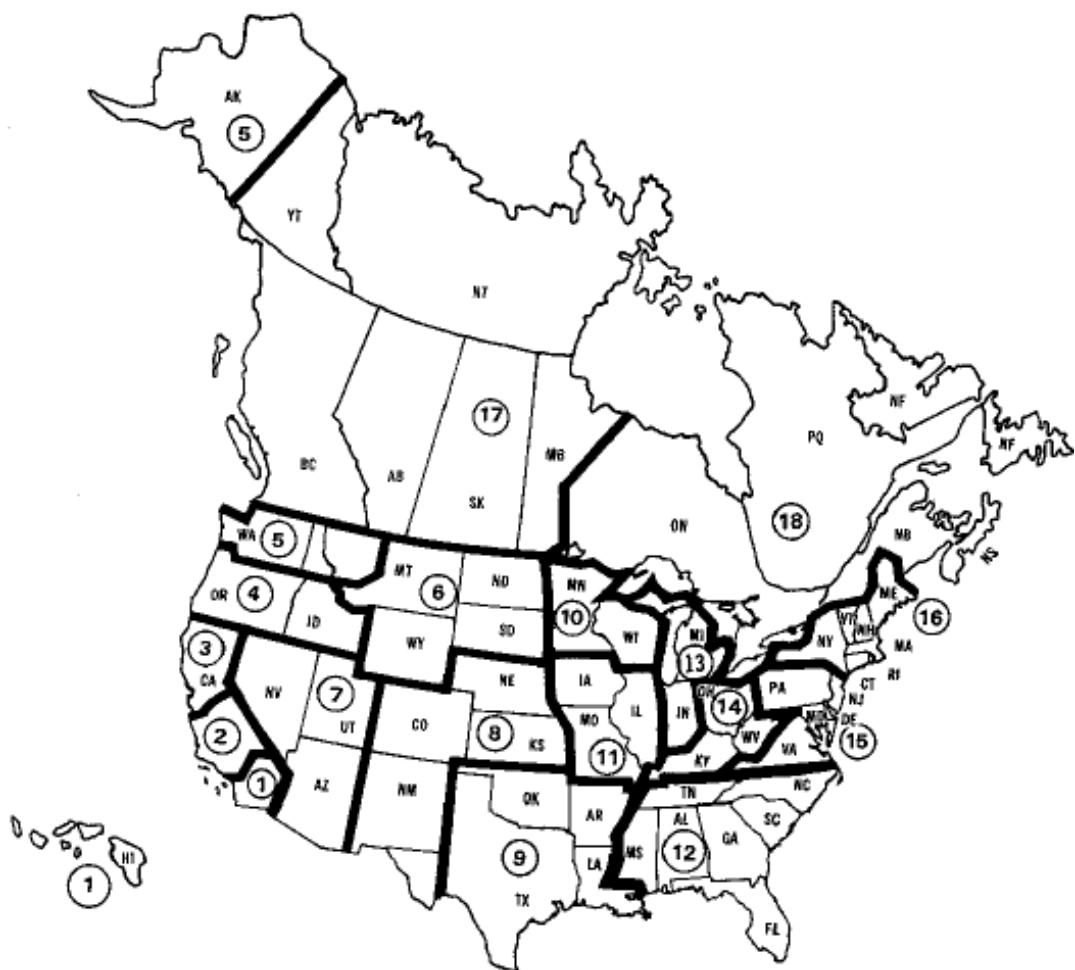
[Regional Convention Delegate Report by Club](#)

[Approve Pending Shows](#)

[View Approved / Canceled Shows](#)

Please note the additional report access that has been provided through this section. One-on-one instruction on how to use this section can be provided by any Competition Services Representative.

Region Map



Event Approval

There are three ways an approval can be made for an event:

- Log on to your Regional Director's Page and approve the event. This will automatically generate an email to Competitions indicating you have approved a specific event.
- Respond back to Competitions via email correspondence indicating your approval of an event. If you approve events online, you do not have to email approval as well.
- Shows (Events) which have had previous recognition from AHA shall be automatically recognized if the application meets the following criteria:
 - Must be applying for the same date (or same weekend/week/ etc.) as the previous year.
 - Must be held at the same grounds as the previous year.
 - Must maintain the same AHA/USEF/EC rating as the previous year.
 - Sponsored by the same organization as the previous year
 - Must be held in the same Region for which it is a qualifying show (Event).
- Any show not meeting the above criteria will be sent to the appropriate Regional Director(s) for approval. Regional Directors must notify the AHA office in advance of any show they wish to review before automatic recognition occurs. A non-response for more than 10 days by a Regional Director will constitute an automatic approval.
- If you do not wish to approve an event, please notify the Competitions Department as soon as possible so they can inform the event management that approval has been denied. Shows denied approval do have the ability to appeal to the Board of Directors.

Online Approval Instructions-

- Log on to AHA's secure site. Your Director's Home page will come up with functions only available to you as a Director.
- Once logged into your Member Homepage, scroll down to the "Region Management" section.
- Click on "Approve Pending Shows".
- On your home page you will also be able to see, check or print club rosters.
- If you want more information on the show, click on the show name and more detailed information will be shown on the next page.
- To approve the show, click on the box in front of the show name then click "Submit". This will generate the approval date in the system, the show will appear on the AHA web site and an email is generated to the Approval desk that you approved the show.
- Once that is received, the rest of the approval process will be completed. The approval email is then sent to the Manager and Secretary with the approval numbers and other information for the Managers and Secretaries.

Board of Directors Meetings

Meetings

- The Board of Directors establishes the meeting dates at the August Board of Directors meeting for the following year. In addition to these established meetings, the President may call special meetings (via conference call, zoom, email, or in-person).
- A board agenda and accompanying materials will be supplied in Boardable prior to the meeting and should be reviewed before the start.
- Board meetings are run in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order. All motions must be made in writing (including an AHA financial impact/BT/IT statement) and are requested to be in the AHA office 30 days before each meeting. Motions from Committees and Commissions are required to include the vote of said group. For motions not included in Boardable prior to the scheduled meeting, Motion Forms will be provided at each meeting. The President is not required to vote on motions unless the vote is needed to break a tie.
- If information is not available to the Board of Directors within a minimum of 48 hours' notice of review of the Motion, the Motion will automatically be postponed to the next Board of Directors Meeting. Exception: The 48-hour notice may be suspended, and the motion may be considered at that meeting upon a 2/3rd Majority vote of those present. The 2/3rd Majority vote allows for discussion and debate of said motion and does not imply approval.
- Minutes of the Board meetings are emailed to the Board members with instructions for making changes or additions. It is recommended that at least 7 days be given for review and submission of any changes prior to distribution of minutes to the membership. Minutes of the Executive Committee are approved by that Committee; however, actions passed by the Executive Committee between Board meetings are submitted to the Board of Directors for informational purposes. A record of the actions, including approved minutes from the Board meetings are posted on the AHA website. This information can be found at the bottom of the page under the "Leadership" section one you login to the website, scroll to the bottom of the Board of Directors page and click on the "Board Meeting" link.

March Meeting

- The Board considers rule and policy changes proposed by AHA committees through their work at the Annual Convention. This meeting is also the time to consider any action needed resulting from the resolutions passed at the Annual Convention. It is also the time to review and approve the proposed fiscal year budget.
- In addition, the Board is required to review the current fees set by the Board of Directors and consider any changes to the future fee structure. AHA's fiscal year is April 1 through March 31.

August Meeting

- Incoming Directors are invited to attend the August Board meeting as an introduction to the Board members and as an introduction to the way the meetings are conducted. This meeting is the time to finalize any rule changes for next year's AHA Handbook and is the time to consider any proposed resolutions to go from the Board to the Annual Convention
- Nominations for elected boards, commissions, and committees should be considered. Nominations are also accepted at the first Board meeting at the Annual Convention.
- Written nominations for the Director's Award are accepted at the August Board meeting. The AHA staff prepares special ballots so that if a Director has been nominated, the ballot that Director receives will not contain his/her name. When the ballots are counted, that Director will be given one additional vote. Voting is done at the August meeting, but the results are not made known until the winner(s) are announced during the President's Banquet at the Annual Convention. To receive the award, a nominee must receive 15 votes. When voting, you may vote for any number of the nominees. Once an individual has received the award, that individual is no longer eligible to receive another Director's Award.

Board Meeting at the Annual Convention

- The Convention Board meeting is the time to consider the proposed resolutions referred to the Board by the Agenda and Resolutions Committee.
- Ballots for boards, commissions and committees elected by the Board are provided. Nominations for all elected boards, commissions and committees are opened. Nominations are closed for the ones being elected by the Board; nominations for the ones being elected by the convention delegates are held open until the first General Session where additional nominations for officers, boards and committees can be made. Nominations for EPRB made on the floor of the General Session must come from a Director or Officer.
- Voting is done for boards, commissions and committees elected by the Board. Results are announced at the Board Meeting and General Session.
- Nominees for the boards, commissions and committees elected by the Board of Directors and Convention delegates do not have to be present at the Convention or at the Board meeting at which the election is held. All nominees must be current AHA members in good standing.
- You should be prepared for other short-notice meetings of the Board at Convention that may be called as needed (both in person or via zoom or a conference call).

Attendance

- AHA depends on the experience, knowledge, and judgment each Director brings to the Board. Your attendance at every meeting is extremely important. In the event you are unable to attend, please notify the AHA office, and ask your designated representative to be present. The Regional Vice Chair or alternate At-Large Directors will be entitled to attend any Board of Directors meeting and vote and will count in determining a

quorum of the Board of Directors only if the Director is absent. Remember that the "Code of Ethics, Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest Form" will need to be signed by the said Regional Vice Chair or alternate At-Large Director as sensitive material may be discussed.

- Roll is taken at each day's session of the Board meetings. If a member must leave a meeting early, they will be noted as "not present" for any votes subsequently taken.

Preparing for the Directors' Meeting

- Any Director may request that items be placed on the agenda. Most, if not all, agenda items should include written support. If a Board member has an item to place on the agenda, the item, motion, and any backup documentation should be sent to the AHA office (Executive Director or Executive Assistant) 30 days prior to the March, August, and Convention Board meeting (note that time frames for submission may differ due to the dates meetings are requested/called).
- An agenda is prepared and distributed, along with all backup documentation, approximately two weeks prior to the March, August, and Convention Board meetings. This early distribution gives Directors the opportunity to review the agenda items and details ahead of time. Note, some committees/commissions submit information on a last-minute basis, this information will be provided to the Board as soon as it is officially received by the office.

Board Liaison

- Members of the Board serve as Board Liaison to AHA Committees/Commissions. If you have a specific committee request, make it known to the President as he/she appoints the Liaisons. The following is a definition of a Board Liaison:
- A Board Member will be assigned to each Committee/Commission as liaison. If a Board Member does not wish to serve the Committee/Commission to which he/she has been assigned, it is the duty of that Director to notify the AHA office or the President.
- If the liaison assignment is accepted, he/she must be sure that a report of the activities of the Committee/Commission is sent to the AHA office (Executive Director or Executive Assistant) 30 days prior to the March, August, and Convention Board meeting. If the Committee/Commission does not meet, the report must so state.
- This liaison must also be prepared to answer questions about the Committee/Commission work at the Board meetings. In this way a record can be made regarding the activity level of each Committee/Commission.
- Note: Committee/Commission descriptions and composition can be found in Chapter 5 of the AHA Handbook.
- If a resolution is referred to a Committee/Commission at a prior Convention, that resolution is to be brought to the Convention floor by a written report from a Committee/Commission to which it was referred; the liaison shall be responsible to verify that a report is made. The failure of a Committee/Commission to meet or act on a resolution shall be construed as a report recommending approval of the resolution.

Budget

- The deadline for submitting budgets has been established by the Budget & Finance Committee working with AHA staff. As addressed above under the "March Meeting", the Board will review and approve the budget. Budgets are considered "Confidential" and cannot be shared with others unless expressed permission is received from the AHA President or Executive Director.
- The AHA Budget is initiated by the AHA Department Directors and their staff with strategic guidelines from the Board of Directors. The Budget & Finance Committee thoroughly reviews the budget and makes further recommendations to the Board of Directors before final approval, usually at the March Board meeting. This budget provides focus for the following fiscal year.
- See also [Policy 4.8 Governance Budget](#)

Membership Involvement

Committees, Commissions, Boards, Panels & Working Groups

- The boards, commissions, panels, and committees of Arabian Horse Association (AHA) serve a very important function in the membership communication process. The measurable success of the organization is based upon the activity and energy of these groups. To those who serve, AHA expresses appreciation for their dedication.
- If you are interested in serving on any committee:
 - You should first determine how frequently that committee meets and,
 - Whether you are willing to make the commitment of time, energy and money required to attend those meetings.
 - No reimbursements will be made or budgeted for any individual expenses in conjunction with the AHA Annual Convention.
 - Be sure you complete the Committee Sign-Up Form online.
- The primary function of all boards, commissions, panels, committees and working groups is to act in an advisory, regulatory and/or policy-making capacity as defined in their respective board, commission, panel, and committee description.
- The administration of AHA rules, policies and procedures, and all business transactions including but not limited to contract negotiations, budgeting, and the handling of funds, will be the responsibility of AHA staff with the approval of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors (BOD) of AHA. (Refer to AHA Handbook, Chapter 5 for details.)
- Committee meeting dates are determined by the Chairs and notice is given to the members. Most communications are done electronically; however, face-to-face meetings may take place and are usually done at the AHA Annual Convention.
- See [Chapter 5](#) in the AHA Handbook for a complete list of committees, commissions, and how each group is populated, any term limits, and purpose.

Remember When—Our History

Our History

- Today, when the average American hears something about an Arabian horse, he probably pictures a majestic steed galloping across desert sands—mane and tail flowing, neck arched, nostrils flaring, the familiar dished face with eyes wide apart and expressive. But over 100 years ago most people had no idea what an Arabian horse was.

Arabian Horse Registry of America (AHR) History

- Arabian horses have been registered in the United States since 1908 by the Arabian Horse Club, aka, Arabian Horse Club of America, aka Arabian Horse Registry of America (AHR), aka Arabian Horse Association.

- In 1967 the Registry outsourced the registration information to a computer company for record keeping. By 1983 the Registry developed their first in-house computer system for registration. In 1984 the Registry staff began capturing into the Registry computers the Stud Books from other countries, thereby collecting the largest database of Registered Arabians in the world. In 1991 the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry and the Canadian Part-bred Arabian Horse Registry utilized the AHR system for registering their Arabians and Half-Arabians.
- Arabian Horse America was instituted in 1998 as the marketing and promotional entity to encourage the breeding and registering of Arabian Horses. They developed the Discovery Farm Program for new folks to visit and be introduced to the Arabian horse. Then followed a Mentoring Network that allowed a beginner to learn from a seasoned Arabian participant. Online programs were added later for Arabian riders who have fun with their horses or participate in open competitions.
- Beginning in the late 1950's the Registry made many donations to International Arabian Horse Association for the purpose of Judges education, promotion, and youth involvement.

International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA) History

- In many ways the history of IAHA (aka Arabian Horse Association) is the history of the Arabian horse showing industry in the United States and Canada. It was that first show in 1945 at Pasadena, California, that stimulated enthusiasm throughout the Arabian horse world.
- A year earlier a small group of Arabian owners formed the first Arabian horse club—the Arabian Horse Breeder's Society of California, now the Arabian Horse Association of Southern California. After that first show their membership expanded to members from all along the West Coast and as far away as Pennsylvania and Hawaii. However, the inconvenience of long travel soon resulted in the formation of new clubs across the United States and Canada.
- A new awakening was beginning within the industry. Soon there were more All-Arabian shows, and more Arabians were being noticed at open shows. In only five years the number of horses registered nearly doubled the total registered in the previous 37 years, and seven clubs were organized. In this same five-year span, it was also realized that some sort of centralized organization was needed to serve as a governing body and to facilitate coordination between clubs. The reasonable choice for the job appeared to be the Arabian Horse Club (The Registry). But when approached, its directors, knowing the Quarter Horse and Palomino Registries had problems when they became involved in these activities, decided to remain only a registry. And so, to help actively promote the Arabian horse, the clubs decided to form a separate organization.
- In March of 1950, each club sent delegates to a meeting at Salt Lake City, Utah, and the International Arabian Horse Association was formed. This is also the first year our Arabian rules and judges appeared in the AHSA (now USEF) Rulebook.
- At the first meeting, the functions of the association were established; and essentially remain the same today. Although International's main responsibilities were

promotional activities, it also coordinated Arabian horse shows, club activities, formulated and regulated rules for the industry and disseminated useful information. In addition, in IAHA's second year, it purchased the Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horse registries, which had been operated by the American Remount Association. In 2002 IAHA had approximately 27,500 members and 270 member associations throughout the United States and Canada. A few of its major promotional activities included the Canadian National Championship Horse Show, the U.S. National Championship Horse Show, the Youth/Mid Summer National Championship Horse Show, the new 2003 Sport Horse National Championship Show and the International Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes program, aka Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes.

Arabian Horse Association (AHA)

- At the November 2002 Annual Convention, a Resolution was submitted by IAHA & AHR and approved by the delegates to merge the two organizations into one association to better serve the members of both associations, better promote the Arabian horse, utilize better cost savings and overhead, eliminate confusion and to emerge with one voice for the Arabian Industry.
- Thus, on April 1, 2003, the Arabian Horse Association was incorporated with a membership of over 40,000, with staff from both organizations under one roof, with one handbook for all programs and rules.
- Our future will be established with the merging of computer systems, enhancing the website, combining programs, and merging the Board of Directors serving one organization of an enthusiastic membership who want to promote, sell, and enjoy their Arabian horses.
- It's been a long hill to climb with over approximately 170 combined years of AHR and IAHA, however, the end result is what really counts, and the benefits will surely surpass any doubts that were worrisome along the way. This association will be the beginning of the Arabian Horse Industry, reaching the heights that it deserves.
- Part of AHA success will be credited to the Arabian horse itself. Its majestic beauty and versatility have easily made them a popular breed. As a result, the public responds enthusiastically when hearing about Arabian Horses.

Inside the AHA Corporate Office

Executive

Executive Team

- The Executive Department consists of the Executive Director, Executive Administrative Assistant, Controller, and the Manager of HR & Office Services.
- The Executive Director is responsible for the overall administration of the Association and ensures that the mission of the AHA is carried out effectively in accordance with directions provided by the Board of Directors, policies of AHA, and within established financial constraints.
- The Executive Director consults with the President on the coordination of the Committees, Commissions and Boards.

Accounting Team

- The Accounting Department, under the direction of the Controller, is responsible for accounting, financial reporting, preparing the budget, cash management, cash flow reports, investments, tax and other filings and the coordination of the annual audit. They also secure corporate/event insurance.
- In addition to regular responsibilities, the department also performs ongoing work toward the improvement of existing accounting systems and procedures, as well as the design and implementation of new accounting systems and procedures.
- The Controller is responsible for implementing the procurement policies and procedures for the purchase of AHA goods and services. This team assists the Budget & Finance and Internal Audit Committees. This Team also oversees the maintenance of the headquarters building.

Personnel & Office Services Team

- Is under the direction of the Manager of HR and is responsible for the mailroom, warehouse, copy center, shipping, receiving and the batching and scanning of incoming money mail.
- This area also handles hiring and the administration of employee benefits (insurance, Workers' Compensation) and payroll.

Business Technology (BT)

Business Technology Team

- The Business Technology Department, guided by the Director, is responsible for all computer hardware, software and data management which includes the purchasing, development, maintenance and training of any hardware or software programming required to support the internal computer system users and membership base.
- This department introduced e-commerce on the AHA Website and has continued to

develop the site for interactive business with AHA including online membership, program entries, national show entries, show & ride applications, and program results.

Membership & Registry Services

Customer Service Team

- The Customer Service Team, led by the Senior Director/Registrar, provides individualized service, and helps customers resolve a variety of issues regarding all aspects of Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian registrations, transfers of ownership and membership. This is done through incoming and outgoing calls, written communication in the form of email and letters, face-to-face customer service at our National Events, Equine Affairs and walk ins to the Greenwood Village office.
- Additionally, they process and administer DNA/Blood type testing, Embryo/Oocyte Transfer Permits, Transported/Stored Semen Permits, Semen Service Certificates, Certificates of Registration for Racing, Import Registrations and Export Endorsements. They also change horse records related to gender, color, markings, or name.
- They track the results of all Arabian racing and keep records for the Arabian Jockey Club.
- All special cases and investigations are handled through this department. They also update and maintain the World Arabian Database.
- The Registrar fosters relationships with related breed and equine associations such as the American Horse Council and National Pedigreed Livestock Council. This group works closely with the Registration Commission to ensure that AHA remains in the forefront regarding service, integrity, and stewardship of the breed.
- In addition, this team is responsible for the administration of all member benefit programs, creation, and implementation of membership drives, maximizing member retention and all club communications. They process membership applications and renewals. Also, they process convention registrations and delegate certifications for attendance at the AHA Annual Convention and track Regional and Club Officers.
- They assist the Membership Committee, Racing Commission, and Registration Commission.

Competitions & Convention

Competitions/Programs/Convention Team

- The Competitions/Programs/Convention Department, under the direction of the Senior Director, is charged with recognition and recording of qualifying competitions and servicing of competition-related programs.
- This team also pursues delinquent payments to AHA Recognized Competitions and Member Organizations through its collection services and provides staff support to the National Events Team.
- They manage, coordinate, and produce the Annual Convention, while selecting and

negotiating future convention sites.

- This area has the responsibility of improving understanding and compliance of competition rules and procedures through communication and maintenance. This includes responsibility for the rules in the AHA Handbook (producing the content), the recognition of AHA shows and rides and the posting of show and ride results, which are the foundation of AHA programs. They also monitor the Board of Director motions for rule compliance and assist with the resolution process.
- They are the resource for history, information and clarification of the rules, motions, and resolutions for the AHA Staff, Board of Directors, members and volunteers. They work with the Agenda & Resolutions Committee to format and recommend wording for resolutions which are submitted by committees/commissions/regions/member organizations (clubs). They process all Ethical Practice Review Board complaints and all returned instrument suspensions requested by AHA recognized competitions or member organizations. They assist with Board of Director administrative duties.
- The Competition area has the responsibility for handling, processing, entering, updating, and monitoring all paperwork and records for the AHA Programs. They set batch deadlines and monitor all departments to see that they are met so that financials can be produced as quickly as possible. They track AHA Award Programs and send appropriate items when they are achieved. They process all prize money pay-outs within the deadlines and send to accounting for timely mailing.
- They assist the Agenda & Resolutions, AHA Futurity Commission, Annual Convention Planning Committee, Awards, Competitions Advisory, Ethical Practice Review Board, Probable Cause Panel, Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes, Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Trustees, Bylaws, USEF Arabian Division and Credentials Workforce Panel.

National Events & Marketing

National Events Team

- Under the direction of the National Events Director, the National Events Department is charged with the management and coordination of the Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals, Sport Horse Nationals, and U. S. Nationals. They work with the National Show and Distance Commissions within the policies established by the AHA Board of Directors and within the budgets of each National Event.
- They process entries for the National Events and send acknowledgements to exhibitors. In addition, they produce the omnibus prize list, utilize the job costing accounting and assist with the reports to the AHA Board of Directors. They have the responsibility to ensure that all the show and discipline rules (AHA, USEF, EC, USDF, ADS, etc.) are followed at these national events. They also have the responsibility of assuring understanding and compliance of all competition rules and procedures through communication and maintenance.
- The Director of Corporate Sponsors & National Events Manager is charged with the management and coordination of the Distance Nationals (National Endurance Ride and National Competitive Trail Ride) and the Ranch Horse Championship. They work with the Distance Commissions within the policies established by the AHA Board of Directors

and within the budgets of each National Event. They process entries for the National Events and send acknowledgements to exhibitors. In addition, they produce the premium for Ranch Horse, utilize the job costing accounting and assist with the reports to the AHA Board of Directors. They have the responsibility to ensure that all the show and ride rules (AHA, USEF, EC, AERC, ADS, etc.) are followed. In addition, they solicit and secure Corporate Sponsorships, enhancing AHA and providing member benefits. They sell space for the trade fairs at the National events (the society of patrons, class sponsors, award contributors, farm flag program and admissions.

- They assist the Amateur Committee, AHA National Distance Commission, Distance Riding, Dressage/Western Dressage, Hunter/Jumper, National Show Directorate, Working Western, Sport Horse Committee, Sport Horse National Show Commission, U.S. National Show Commission and Youth/Mid-Summer National Show Commission.

Marketing Team

- Communications is under the direction of the Marketing Director and serves as the in-house, comprehensive public relations arm for AHA. This area is responsible for podcasts, the app, press releases, creating material for the AHA website and the creation and content of the email blasts.
- The Graphics Designer is responsible for the other graphics of AHA which may include but not limited to the programs and omnibus for the national shows, layout of the AHA Handbook and web site material.
- They assist the Market Development & Promotion Committee.

Youth Programs Team

- The Youth & Family Programs Director is responsible for creating and coordinating all youth programs: the judging contest and Hippology contest at U.S. Nationals, the youth team tournament, and the youth of the year. They assist with the youth newsletter, the Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA), the activities that take place at the Youth/Mid Summer Nationals and fundraising efforts for youth programs.
- They assist the AHYA Board of Directors, Youth Committee and Equitation>Showmanship Committees.

Judges & Stewards Commissioner

Judges & Stewards Team

- The Judges and Stewards Department consists of the office of the Judges & Stewards Commissioner and Commissioner's Assistant.
- The Commissioner is responsible for the overall administration, monitoring, discipline and education of the licensed judges and stewards who appear on the AHA approved list of accredited judges and stewards. They also ensure that the intent of Resolution 5-90, with its amendments, is carried out effectively in accordance with the directions provided by the Executive Committee, policies of AHA and within established financial constraints.
- The Judges & Stewards team members assist the Commissioner's Review Panel, the

Education/ Evaluation Commission, the Judges & Stewards Selection, and the Judges & Stewards Steering Committee.

See also [Policy 2.2](#) – Treatment of Staff and Volunteers

AHA Financials

All AHA Financial Statements are confidential to the Board, Budget & Finance Committee and Senior AHA Staff

How to Read a Financial Statement

The following narrative briefly explains the nature and/or composition of each line item on the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities for AHA. All financial reports that you will receive are considered confidential unless stated otherwise by the President.

Statement of Financial Position

<i>Term</i>	<i>Nature/Composition</i>
Cash	Money that is generally kept in interest-bearing money market accounts. AHA currently has several bank accounts which are used to segregate cash related to AHA's many separate programs and off-site event productions.
Cash Investments	Vehicles used to segregate cash not needed in the immediate future so as to secure the highest possible returns within the conservative guidelines set forth for investment. AHA currently has a number of investment accounts that are used to segregate funds related to separate programs. All cash investments are stated at fair value in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
Interest Receivable	Represents the amount of interest earned on cash investments but not yet received. Actual interest payments are typically received monthly or semiannually for individual investments.
Trade Accounts Receivable	Net amounts owed to/from AHA for work submitted with incorrect payment. Also included are items that are traditionally billed to customers, such as National Show Program advertising, show late fees, NSF charges and fees, etc. This receivable balance reflects a reduction for an estimate of the amount that is considered uncollectible.
Notes Receivable	Consists of balances due on deferred billings received from participants in the Breeders Sweepstakes program. This receivable balance reflects a reduction for an estimate of the amount considered uncollectible
Inventory	Includes trophy orders which are contracted for and substantially completed as of the financial statement date.
Prepayments	Represent those items for which AHA has purchased services for a future period. Included are the business insurance policies and service/maintenance contracts with prepayment terms. The cost of these items is then recognized evenly over the period of the policy or service contract.
Property And Equipment	Includes all capital assets owned by AHA. A subsidiary ledger is maintained which itemizes the assets into the following categories: Furniture; Equipment; Computer Equipment; Software; Films;

	Building; Building Improvements; Land, and Land improvements. The amount shown is net of accumulated depreciation.
Accounts Payable	Represents those liabilities occurring in the general function of paying vendors for expenses incurred.
Accrued Liabilities	Comprised of accumulated unpaid payroll expenses.
Deferred Revenue	Comprised of membership dues and event receipts, which have not been recognized as revenue yet. Membership revenue is recognized evenly throughout the membership year, thereby reducing the deferred revenue amount. Also included are any receipts in the current fiscal year for events to be held in the next fiscal year. Therefore, expenses paid within one fiscal year may relate to past shows as well as future shows. These items are isolated to their specific events in other reports provided by accounting such as the supplemental schedule entitled State of Activities and in explicit detail in internal Job Cost reports. Also included in this line item are the costs of operating the National Shows department.
Obligations To Prize Money Programs	Represent the total obligations to prize money program recipients as of the financial statement date. The amount shown in the Operations column represents the obligation to the prize money program participants related to uncollected promissory notes receivable. The amount shown in the Prize Money Programs column is a combined figure representing the current and future obligations to prize money program participants related to currently held program assets.
Unrestricted, Undesignated Net Assets	The accumulated excess of revenue over expenses which has not been designated for a specific purpose by the AHA Board of Directors.
Unrestricted, Designated Contingency Net Assets	is the amount set aside by Board action to be used for legal defense of AHA, and major capital purchases
Unrestricted, Designated Education/Evaluation Fund Balance	The accumulated excess of receipts over expenses for those programs under the control of the Judges & Stewards Commissioner as set forth in Resolution 9-90
Unrestricted, Designated Scoring Net Assets	The accumulated excess of receipts over expenses for Majority Opinion System (MOS) scoring program as set forth in Resolution 45-00. A portion of these net assets have been invested in scoring education.
Purpose Restricted Net Assets	Those assets which may only be used according to specific donor-imposed stipulations.
Perpetual Restricted Net Assets	Consists of Yearling Jackpot contributions for which the principal will be maintained in perpetuity

Statement Of Activities

Term	Nature/Composition
Horse Shows Revenue	Includes all revenue items associated within the National Events group that occur within the fiscal year. This revenue includes such items as entries, commercial exhibits, admissions, patrons, program/prize list advertising, etc. For example, the Fall 2024 shows actually occurred in the fiscal year labeled FY25 and the Fall 2025 shows occur in the fiscal year fiscal year labeled FY26.
Registrations Revenue	Included is revenue items classified as registration, such as Purebred and Half Arab registrations, delegate registration for convention, and judges school and seminars.

Membership Revenue	Recognized evenly throughout the fiscal year. All receipts of membership dues are accumulated in the deferred revenue account, which appears on the Statement of Financial Position until recognized at an even monthly rate. (Also see previous discussion of deferred revenue.)
Service Fees	<p>Represent fees collected by AHA to allow participation in the variety of programs offered. Included in this broad description are the following revenue items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration fees, transfer fees & administrative fees • Show recognition fees • Halter Futurity administrative fees • Show results fees (per horse) • Sweepstakes administrative fees • Distance program - enrollment & administrative fees • Single event membership fees payable to AHA • Convention registrations & meal purchases • Achievement awards enrollment & administrative fees • EPRB filing fees
Sponsorships/Donations and Fundraising	Comprised of contributions for youth programs, general corporate sponsorships, and other unspecified contributions.
Merchandising Revenue	Includes receipts from mailing labels, decal sales, AHA branded products, etc. In keeping with the typical practice of nonprofit organizations, the costs of these items are offset against the revenue in this one-line item.
Net Investment return	Interest on investments as well as the recording of unrealized gain or loss on investments
Fund raising	Funding raising for youth programs
Other Revenue	Consists of royalties and other immaterial, nonrecurring types of receipts.
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	Recognize that donor stipulations for the use of these assets have been satisfied during the reporting period.
Events and Shows Program Expenses	Includes all expenses incurred within the reporting periods that are directly associated within the National Events group and Convention. Therefore, expenses paid within one fiscal year may relate to past shows as well as future shows. These items are isolated to their specific events in other reports provided by accounting such as the supplemental schedule entitled Statement of Activities. Also included in this line item are the costs of operating the National Events department.t
Sales and Marketing Expenses	Include the expenses associated with operating the sales, public relations, and marketing programs.
Member Services Program Expenses	Include the expenses of operating the Breeders Sweepstakes and Halter Futurities programs, as well as the Arabian, Half-Arabian & Anglo-Arabian Horse Registries, memberships, Award Programs, trail rides, show recognition, show results and national show entries.
Registry Services	Includes the costs associated with the operation the registration department including personnel costs but not including 1/3 royalties paid for purebred and half Arabian registrations
Judges Program Expenses	Include the costs associated with the operation of the Judges & Stewards Commissioner's office and those related responsibilities of Judges Schools, Seminars and Evaluations as well as all related committees. Also included here are the costs of the MOS Scoring system.
General Administration Support Services	Include the cost of all functions within AHA which support current and future programs. Support departments include Accounting, Human Resources, Office Services, Business Technology, and the Executive function. Within these departments the expenses of operating the whole of AHA such as legal costs, business insurance, office rent and overhead, taxes paid, tax and audit

	preparation fees, support services, payroll, asset depreciation, computer and office equipment maintenance, general committee, and Board expenses, etc.
Membership Development Support Expenses	Include all expenses associated with the membership and youth development departments, including personnel costs.

See also the following policies:

- [Policy 2.3](#) – Financial Condition & Activities
- [Policy 2.4](#) – Asset Protection
- [Policy 2.5](#) – Financial Planning/Budgeting
- [Policy 2.6](#) – Investment Management

Programs & Promotions

Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes (ABS) Program

- The Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes (Sweepstakes) was introduced by AHA to promote the Arabian horse, elevate its stature in the horse industry, provide a financial incentive for the breeding of Arabian horses, and broaden the income base of AHA.
- Rules and Regulations which define the terms and conditions under which persons and horses may participate in the Sweepstakes are found in the current AHA Handbook.
- The Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Commission has the authority to promote, regulate, operate, and manage the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes with the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Trustees approval.

National Breeding / In - Hand Futurity Program

- The U.S. and Canadian National Futurities are progressive programs for showing Breeding/In-Hand three-year-old Arabian colts, fillies, and geldings, and Half-Arabian fillies and geldings owned by a member of AHA.
- A foal is nominated in-utero and re-nominations are made through the weanling, yearling, and two-year-old years. The horse is then entered into either Canadian or U.S. Nationals (or possibly both) in the Halter Futurity classes and competes for a share of the prize money pot.
- There is a buyback program for horses' original enrolled to come back into the program if a payment had been missed.
- Note, the Canadian Halter Futurity has been discontinued which means no new nominations are being accepted. Horse can be re-nominated up to the 2025 competition year which will be the end of the Canadian Halter Futurity Program.

National Performance Futurity/Maturity Program

- The Performance Futurity is for 3-year-old Arabian, Half-Arabian/ Anglo-Arabian performance horses shown in English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, and

Country English Pleasure; and 5-year-old and under Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Reining, Working Cow, Western Trail and Ranch Riding.

- Horses 6 and under can participate in the Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Herd Work.
- For those horses that are 6-8 years old, they can show in the Open Reining Derby and Open Western Trail Derby.
- The Performance Maturity AAOTR is for 4- or 5-year-old Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Western or Hunter Horses and 5- or 6-year-old Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian County English, or English Pleasure Horses.

Horse Achievement Award Program

- This premier recognition program honors horses by adding symbols of prestige to their name. Industry wide, it's the only program that immediately identifies your horse as one with significant accomplishments.
- Horses earn points for competing and placing in AHA-recognized events, including:
 - Breeding/In-Hand Classes
 - Performance Classes
 - Competitive Trail Rides
 - Endurance Rides
 - Arabian Racing
 - Dressage
 - Eventing
 - Gymkhana
 - Carriage Pleasure Driving
 - Combined Driving Events/Trials
- A specific number of points and combination of classes is required for each level. Once the horse earns the minimum number of points specified for that level, AHA sends a handsome display plaque and an official confirmation letter.

Amateur Achievement Award Program

- This recognition program honors amateurs in the same manner as the Horse Achievement Award program noted above.

High Point of the Year Horse Achievement Award

- Use the tables and point system of the Horse Achievement Award program.
<https://www.arabianhorses.org/export/content.export/aha-handbooks/current-handbook/CHAPTER21.pdf>
- Awarded to the horse with the highest points accumulated from the date of enrollment or renewal (January 1 or later, through December 31).
- A top ten will be recognized, however, once a horse has earned the "Champion" spot it can no longer participate.

High Point of the Year Amateur Achievement Award

- Uses the tables and point system of the Amateur Achievement Award program.
- Awarded to the Adult/Youth with the highest points accumulated from the date of enrollment or renewal (January 1 or later, through December 31).
- The top ten will be recognized, however, once an Adult or Youth has earned the

"Champion" spot they can no longer participate. Two sets of awards are given, one for the Top Ten Adults and one for the Top Ten Youth.

Arabian Recreational Riding Program

- This is an online program for participants to achieve milestones and awards for riding your horses. Procedures and criteria will be found online at the [AHA website](#).

Recognition Awards

President & Director Recognition Awards

Earl E. Hurlbutt President's Award

- This award is given in honor of the first President of IAHA who served from 1950 to 1955 and was instrumental in the development of the Charter and Bylaws for the Association. Outstanding contributions by an individual to the Arabian breed and/or exceptional service to AHA benefiting all its members is what this award recognizes.
- The President of AHA selects the recipient of this award.

Director's Award

- This prestigious award recognizes the member(s) of AHA who have made significant contributions in any of the copious activities that AHA encompasses that are worthy of special recognition.
- Each of the Directors and the Executive Committee selects the recipient of this award by casting their vote.
- The recipient must receive 18 votes from you and your fellow members of the Board.

Equine Recognition Awards

AHA/USDF All Breed Dressage Award Program

- This award recognizes Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horse(s) and their riders for outstanding scores earned through AHA recognized shows or USEF/EC open shows.
- Participants must enroll each year with AHA and must declare "Arabian/Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian" as their breed with USDF.

Ambassador Award

- This award is to recognize the Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian horse(s) for outstanding achievement in representing the Arabian horse to the general public.
- To be eligible the horse must have achieved a unique accomplishment(s) that showcase(s) our breed.

Competitive Trail Ride Awards

- AHA offers annual year-end awards to distance riding organizations for the high point Arabian and the high point Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian competitive trail horses within that organization.
- A list of the current CTR organizations eligible to apply for these awards can be found in Chapter 22 of the AHA Handbook

Distance Horse Program

- This program provides recognition for horses that reach mileage goals in endurance and/or competitive trail. Awards begin at 500 miles, at which time AHA sends a perpetual plaque engraved with the horse's name and registration number.
- Owners receive a brass plate mileage marker for each additional 500 miles reached.

Distance Horse of the Year Award

- This award is to recognize the significant accomplishment of an Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian horse in the distance sports.
- As this is a special significant recognition award there may be years when there is not a recipient.

Endurance Ride Awards

- AHA offers annual year-end awards to the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) highpoint Arabian and to the highpoint Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian in the middle-distance category of 50-99 and in addition to the 100-mile category.

Open Competition Awards

- This award is to recognize the Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian horse(s) for outstanding achievement in representing the Arabian horse for community in the areas of Open Competition.
- To be considered for this award the horse must have acknowledged and promoted the fact that they are representative of the breed in some form, publications, demonstrations, or other public forums.
- The cost of the trophy will be covered by sponsorships; if monetary support is not provided in any given year, the award will not be presented.

Member Recognition

Certificate Of Appreciation

- These certificates are used by AHA committees who wish to give a formal "Thank You" to those outside the AHA membership body.

Volunteer Service Award

- The Selection Guidelines for Member Organization, Regional and/or National level

awards may be used for each level and adjusted appropriately.

- This award is to be given to a member that has contributed significant service, made significant contribution, promoted the breeds in some manner, promoted the Member Organization, the Region and/or AHA by volunteering their time, expertise, or resources or made a unique or creative contribution.

Member Organization Level Awards

- The Member Organization should decide the way the Member Organization will select the recipients (i.e., executive decision, selection committee, etc.).
- The number of awards per Member Organization depends on the number of adult AHA members in that Member Organization. If a Member Organization has 100 or less, then the Member Organization may select one recipient. Should the Member Organization have more than 100, the Member Organization may select up to two recipients.
- After selection of Member Organization level recipients, the Member Organization will forward the winning nomination form for each recipient to AHA, either postmarked/electronic transaction dated by September 15. AHA will distribute letters of congratulations, award certificates, and lapel pins to the winners. The certificate will state the Member Organization name as well as the name of the recipient.

Regional Level Awards

- Each Member Organization should select two nominations to send to you as Regional Director for the Regional level. These two nominations do not need to include those recipients at the Member Organization level but may include them if deemed appropriate.
- Prior to receipt of nominations from Member Organizations, you will need to decide how the selection of the two Regional recipients will be made (i.e., executive decision, selection committee). The person(s) in charge of handling this program for each Region will need to notify the AHA office of the Regional recipients, postmarked/electronic transaction dated by October 31.
- The certificates will state both the region's number and the recipient's name. Letters of congratulations, award certificates and lapel pins will be given out during a ceremony at the AHA Annual Convention.

National Level Awards

- The National Level Award nominations must be generated from Member Organizations, Regional recipients, original nominations suggested by you as the Regional Director, appointed person or President or Executive Board of AHA. The designated person(s) from each Region may forward up to three nominations and must be postmarked/electronic transaction dated by October 15.
- The President of AHA (or any designated person[s]), upon receipt of the nomination forms will select National level recipients to be awarded at the AHA Annual Convention. The number of National recipients will be approximately 25.
- This allows at least one recipient per region, plus any additional individuals that the

President of AHA and the rest of the Executive Committee of AHA deems deserving.

Member Organization Recognition

AHA Club Excellence Award Program

- All entrants will receive a certificate of participation. All awards will be presented at the AHA Annual Convention. First place will be named in each category and awarded a certificate.
- Club of the Year will be given a special award. The Club of the Year award will be selected from the first-place winners in each category. All first-place winners are eligible for Club of the Year

The Award Categories are as follows:

- **Breed Promotion/Community Involvement**
This category may include any outreach activity that goes beyond the Arabian Horse Community. Examples: farm tours, demonstrations at all-breed events, clinics for 4-H, FFA, Boy Scouts, Parades, and mini-seminars.
- **Membership Recruitment or Retention**
This category may include membership recruitment and retention campaigns. There are many ways to measure success: by saving money, recruiting more members, lost fewer members, or increased member participation.
- **Club Projects**
The Club Projects category includes projects that are specific to that individual club and its members. Examples: trail ride, fun class at the horse show, stallion service auction.

Member Award Programs

Dressage/Western Dressage Rider Award Program

- After enrollment, riders are eligible for an award when they earn two or more scores of 60 percent or better from two separate rides and two different judges. Only scores earned after enrollment are eligible to be counted.
- The show secretary reports scores earned at AHA-Recognized shows. Riders report scores from open shows on the official Open Qualifying Show/Event Results Form. Certificates are awarded for Training/Basic Level, and certificates and lapel pins are awarded for First through Fourth Levels.

Show Me the Paperwork!

*FORMS - *Denotes Interactive Forms that can be utilized online with a credit card and/or ACH.*

Membership Application*

- Membership Application (all categories)
- Amateur Achievement Awards
- Dressage Rider

Registration

Arabian:

- Registration Application
- Transported Stored Semen Certificate & Permit
- Embryo/Oocyte Certificate & Permit
- DNA Request

Half-Arabian & Anglo-Arabian:

- Registration Applications
- DNA/Blood Typing Request

Competition Recognition*

- Event Recognition Application Form* Includes:
 - Qualifying & Regional Shows
 - Endurance & Competitive Trail Rides
 - Regional End & CTR

Convention*

- Annual Convention Certification Convention Registration Resolution Form

National Events

- Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals Information/Prize List/Entries*
- Sport Horse Nationals Information/Prize List/Entries*
- U.S. Nationals Information/Prize List/Entries*
- National Endurance Ride Information
- National Competitive Trail Ride Information
- AHA Trail Rides Information
- Ranch Horse Information/Prize List/Entries

Horse Enrollment Application*

- Breeders Sweepstakes Entries
- Achievements Awards
- Dressage All Breeds Award

- Open Qualifying Enrollment
- Distance Enrollment
- USDF All Breeds

In- Utero Foal Program Application*

- Sweepstakes Breeding Entries
- US Breeding/ In-Hand Futurities

Open Qualifying Show/ Event Results Form

- Dressage/Western Dressage
- Working Hunter/ Jumper/Hunter Hack
- Eventing
- Combined Driving/Carriage Pleasure/Driven Dressage
- Cutting/Working Cow/Reining/Reined Cow/Herd Work
- Ranch Horse.

Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby

- Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby Information & Form

Equitation Medal Order Form

- [Equitation Medal Order Form](#)

Youth Activities*

- Judging Contest Entry Form
- Regional Youth Team Tournament Entry Forms
- Youth of the Year Application

Judges & Stewards*

- Exhibitors/Judges School
- Judges' Continuing Education Seminar

General Information

- Promotional Information for AHA Clubs, Events & Shows*
- Parts of the Horse/Skeleton Information Sheet
- Arabian Home Study Program Information
- AHA Merchandise Order Form
- Educational Booklet Order Form

Arabian Recreational Riding Program*

- [Online entry](#)

Distance Programs*

- Distance Horse of the Year
- Endurance High Point
- Competitive Trail High Point
- Distance Horse Awards

Arabian Horse DataSource*

Online Search Tool for:

- Over 691,000 U.S. Arabians and 414,700 Arabians from foreign registries
- Over 376,000 Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabians
- Over 550,000 U.S. and foreign owners and breeders
- View and print full pedigrees
- View and progeny listing
- Official AHA show results
- View AJC summary race records
- View AERC endurance records
- Add and view photographs of your favorite Arabian
- Various search options

Outreach Programs*

<https://www.arabianhorses.org/outreach/>

- Meet an Arabian Horse
- T.A.I.L. (Total Arabian Interaction Learning)
- Discovery Farms
- Lucky Listener
- Airbnb Experience
- Marketing Toolkit
- Local Level Committee
- AHAcademy

ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION POLICIES
(Addendum to Board Reference Manual)

Policies to Govern the Business Operations of AHA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Category I: Global Ends Statement

Policy 1.0 - AHA Ends Policies

Category II: Management Limitations

Policy 2.0 - General Management Constraint

- 2.1 Treatment of Members
- 2.2 Treatment of Staff/Volunteers
- 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
- 2.4 Asset Protection
- 2.5 Financial Planning/Budgeting
- 2.6 Investment Management
- 2.7 Emergency Executive Director Succession
- 2.8 Compensation & Benefits
- 2.9 Communication and Support to the Executive Committee/Board of Directors

Category III: Executive Committee-Management Delegation

Policy 3.0 - Governance-Management Connection

- 3.1 Accountability of the Executive Director
- 3.2 Delegation to the Executive Director
- 3.3 Monitoring Executive Director Performance

Category IV: Governance Process

Policy 4.0 - Governance Commitment

- 4.1 Governing Style & Values
- 4.2 Executive Committee Job Description
- 4.3 Agenda Planning
- 4.4 President's and Officer's Role
- 4.5 Executive Committee Members' Code of Conduct
- 4.6 Governing Committees
- 4.7 Governing Committee Principles
- 4.8 Governance Budget

Category I: GLOBAL ENDS LIMITATION

POLICY 1.0

POLICY TITLE: ENDS POLICIES

1.0 Global Ends Statement:

AHA exists for
Growth in the Number of People Having
A Passion to Own and Enjoy the Arabian Horse

(Not reflecting any order of priority)

1. There is growth in the interest in and demand for the Arabian Horse.
2. The integrity of the breed is preserved.
3. There is increased participation in activities involving the Arabian Horse.
 - A. There is growth in the membership of affiliated clubs.
4. The equine industry and general public recognize and value the attributes of the Arabian Horse.
5. Members have services and benefits that are valuable and convenient.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.0

POLICY TITLE: GENERAL MANAGEMENT CONSTRAINT

The Executive Director shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance that is unlawful, imprudent, or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics and practices.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.1

POLICY TITLE: TREATMENT OF MEMBERS

With respect to interactions with AHA members, or those applying to become members, the Executive Director shall not cause or allow conditions or procedures that are unfair, unsafe, untimely, undignified or unnecessarily intrusive.

Accordingly, he/she shall:

1. Ensure that AHA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origins (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members and volunteers. (BOD 8/16, 11/16)
2. Ensure that members/customers are treated with respect and courtesy.

3. Ensure that new members are placed in the appropriate membership categories.
 - A. Encourage club affiliation
 - B. Help to enable members to benefit from club membership.
4. Not Collect, review, transmit, store nor destroy member information in a manner that fails to protect against improper access to that information/data.
5. Communicate to members a clear understanding of what AHA membership entitlements may be expected from the services offered.
6. Ensure a process for timely response to complaints.

AHA considers records and financial information submitted to AHA to be confidential between the party and AHA. Copies of records and/or information are only released back to the person or party submitting the documents and only to the address recorded at AHA or listed on the paperwork received, with the following exceptions:

INFORMATION WE WILL GIVE OUT

Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Horse Registries Information

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Name • Registration Number • Owner Name and Address • Foal Date • Color • Markings • Sex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sire • Sire Registration Number • Dam • Dam Registration Number Castration Date (if applicable) • Breeder Information Transfer Information
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Membership

- Current AHA Membership Number (to Show Officials or Member Organization regarding their own members)
- Current AHA Member Street address
- Telephone numbers and e-mail addresses **ONLY** for the following
 - Board of Directors
 - Regional Officers
 - Committee Chairs
 - Committee Members
 - Club Contacts
 - Commercial Exhibitors
 - Advertisers
 - AHA recognized Arabian Judges & Stewards
 - Event Secretaries
 - Event Managers
 - Youth Board of Directors
 - Youth Committee Chairs
 - Youth Committee Members

Programs/Events/Shows

- Verify entries in AHA Events
- Verify horse enrollment in AHA Programs
- Sweepstakes Payment Information on Status of Prize Money Payout

INFORMATION WE WILL NOT GIVE OUT

Member Telephone Number (except as listed above)

Member Email Addresses (except as listed above)

Member Social Security numbers

Membership

- Multiple AHA Members' Addresses
(Must purchase labels – forward request to AHA)
- AHA Account Balances/Invoices/Statements/Delinquent Notices/Collection Notices (Refer all requests for information to Accounting Dept.)

Employee (Past/Present) Information

- Requests for Employment Information (refer all questions to Human Resources Dept.)

Non-Standard Information

Written Request Required

Board, committee and/or member requests for additional information must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director for evaluation. All requests should be made in good faith and for a proper purpose. The request should describe with reasonable particularity the purpose for the request and the records the member desires to inspect. Requests should not violate any individual's right to privacy or due process and may require a court order or subpoena.

Appeal Procedure

If the Executive Director denies the request, the member may appeal the decision by sending the request to the Executive Committee for review at its next scheduled meeting. If the Executive Committee denies the request, the member may appeal that decision by sending the request to the AHA Board of Directors for review at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The BOD decision is final.

Associated Costs

AHA may impose a reasonable charge covering the costs of labor and material to produce any large copy project as a result of an information request.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.2

POLICY TITLE: TREATMENT OF STAFF/VOLUNTEERS

With respect to the treatment of volunteers and employees, the Executive Director shall not cause or allow conditions that are unsafe, unfair, or undignified.

Accordingly,

1. Pertaining to volunteers, the Executive Director shall ensure that volunteers are informed of and execute agreements specifying mutual expectations and consideration.
2. Pertaining to employees, the Executive Director may not:
 - A. Operate without a written personnel manual, approved by legal counsel, that clarifies personnel rules for employees, provides for effective handling of grievances, and protects against wrongful conditions.
 - B. Fail to acquaint staff with this policy.
 - C. Allow staff to be unprepared to deal with emergency situations (e.g. – fire, tornado, etc.)
3. Pertaining to employees and volunteers, the Executive Director may not retaliate against an employee/volunteer for reporting to management or to the Executive Committee acts or omissions by AHA personnel, management or the Executive Committee or Board of Directors that the employee/volunteer believes, in good faith and based on credible information,

constitutes a violation of state or federal law or a governing policy of the Executive Committee.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.3

POLICY TITLE: FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES

With respect to financial condition and activities, the Executive Director shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy, or a material deviation of actual expenditures from the Executive Committee's Ends priorities.

Accordingly, the Executive Director is authorized to maintain:

1. Not expend more funds than have been approved in the budget as established by the BOD.
 - A. The Executive Director may not incur any organizational indebtedness, except for use of credit cards used for normal business purchases, which must be paid off monthly.
 - B. Lease agreements and other asset purchases done on time may occur with the approval of the Executive Committee.
2. Settle payroll obligations and payables in a timely manner.
3. Not use restricted or designated funds for purposes other than stated.
4. Maintain specific reserve fund balances as follows:
 - A. Legal defense fund, or
 - B. Major capital items/replacement fund, or
 - C. Any other fund from time-to-time approved by the Executive Committee/Board of Directors.
5. Not allow tax payments or other government ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.
6. Not acquire, sell, encumber, or dispose of Headquarters building or any other material assets without Board of Director approval.
7. Not pledge any of the assets of the Association as security within any contracts with the exception of purchase money security interests in an amount approved by the Executive Committee.
8. Aggressively pursue material receivables within A/R policy as approved by the Executive Committee.
9. Exercise adequate internal controls over receipts and disbursements to avoid unauthorized payments or material depletion of assets.
10. Manage procurement procedures in conformance with Procurement Purchase Policy approved by the Executive Committee.
11. Ensure that the valuation of assets is accurately recorded.
12. With the approval of the Executive Committee, be authorized to utilize up to \$200,000 from the Cash Reserve Account (rainy day fund) for general cash needs between January 1, and June 30 to cover short term cash flow issues, to be paid back by the August Board meeting in which the funds were used. (BOD 03/14)
13. Maintain the legal defense at a balance of \$150,000. In the event of a legal defense funding need the "first out" monies come from the temporarily restricted portion of the account balance. (BOD 03/14)
14. Assure that the Cash Reserve Account can be used for short term loans, at no interest, to the AHA general fund for the designated purposes in an amount determined by a two-thirds vote of

the board of directors. Repayment of all funds loaned to the AHA general fund from Cash Reserve Account must begin no later than six months after the original disbursement of funds from the Cash Reserve Account (i.e., first repayment due in disbursement month plus six months). Repayment terms will be no less than \$15,000 per month until all monies have been repaid. BOD may adjust the repayment amount higher based on the organization's cash position. (BOD 03/14)

- The current contingency funding policy shall be applied to the ongoing funding of the Board Designated Cash Reserve Account to ensure growth within the fund over time until the fund has a minimum balance of 1 million dollars at which time the Board may suspend further funding so long as the account balance continues to be 1 million dollars. (BOD 3/14)
- The money in the Cash Reserve Account shall be maintained in a separate interest and dividends-bearing account with all the interest and dividends accrued to the Cash Reserve Account. (BOD 3/14, BOD 3/24)

15. Refund amounts under \$25.00 will be retained for up to two (2) years. Refunds of \$25.00 or more and refunds under \$25.00 that have exceeded the two (2) year retention period will be issued annually unless a customer requests payment. (BOD 08/15)

16. Assure that the current cost of issuing wire transfers by AHA's bank, either domestically or internationally, will be subtracted from the payment requested by the customer/member/vendor. (EC 3/17)

17. A 401(K)-investment benefit plan for its employees. The following personnel are hereby authorized to act as Plan Administrators and Plan sponsors:

- Executive Director
- Controller
- HR Generalist (EC 11/23)

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.4

POLICY TITLE: ASSET PROTECTION

The Executive Director shall not allow AHA's assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, or unnecessarily risked and shall not endanger the Association's public image, its credibility, or its ability to accomplish Ends without the Executive Committee's approval (e. g. – building upkeep that is unable to be funded such as carpet replacement, etc.)

Accordingly, he or she shall:

1. Maintain facilities and equipment from improper wear and tear or insufficient maintenance.
2. Employ risk management practices to minimize exposure of the organization, its Board, or staff to claims of liability.
 - A. Against theft and casualty losses to at least replacement value; and
 - B. Against liability losses to Board members, staff, and the organization itself in an amount equal to or greater than the average for comparable associations.
 - C. Against employee theft and dishonesty, or through the provision of trust or surety bonds for officers and employees.
3. Enforce the conflict-of-interest policy approved by the Board of Directors.

4. Protect intellectual property, information and files from loss or significant damage.
5. Maintain records in a manner consistent with a Records Retention Schedule established in accordance with recommendations from legal counsel.
6. Receive, process, and disburse funds to meet the Board-appointed auditor's standards.
7. Invest or hold operating capital in secure instruments or in interest-bearing accounts except where necessary to facilitate ease in operational transactions and manage long-term investments in accordance with the "Investment Management" policy (2.6).
8. Not change the name or logo of the Association, or of any of the major program components that are integral to AHA's brand without BOD approval.
9. Not dispose of any real property outside of maintenance and/or out-of-date guidelines.
10. Ensure the following is adhered to:
 - A Staff Director can approve an invoice up to \$10,000
 - The Executive Director can approve an invoice up to \$25,000
 - The Executive Director and the President must both approve an invoice over \$25,000 (EC 5/16)
11. Ensure the following is adhered to:

The Arabian Horse Association is authorized to maintain bank accounts and its President and Secretary are authorized and directed to execute standard form deposit agreements for each respective bank and accounts with the following persons designated as signature authorities:

 - President
 - Treasurer
 - Executive Director
 - Controller
 - Accounting Senior Manager
 - Treasurer (facsimile stamp)
12. All contracts above \$2500.00 be reviewed and signed off by the AHA Executive Director, the AHA controller, the elected AHA President as well as the elected AHA Treasurer. This would pertain to contracts for any departments of AHA excluding AHA Shows and rides. All shows and rides would have an additional review by the Chairman of each of their specific AHA show or ride for their input and signature. (EC 3/23)

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.5

POLICY TITLE: FINANCIAL PLANNING/BUDGETING

Financial planning for any fiscal year or the remaining part of any fiscal year may not deviate materially from the Board's Ends priorities, risk financial jeopardy, or fail to be derived from a multi-year plan without EC/BOD approval.

Accordingly, the approved budget prepared and utilized by the Executive Director shall:

1. Not risk incurring those situations or conditions described as unacceptable in the Investment Management Policy 2.6.
2. Not omit credible projection of revenues and expenses, separation of capital and operational items, cash flow projections, and disclosure of planning assumptions, demonstrating a three-year forecast as it relates to strategic (Ends) initiatives.
3. Provide adequately for reserve funds as set forth in the "Financial Condition and Activities" policy.
4. Provide adequate funding for the functions of approved Show Commissions budgets.
5. Not provide less for Board and Executive Committee activities and functions than is set forth in the Governance/Board Budget policy (see policy 4.8 in Governance Process).
6. Ensure that all requests for material changes in revenues or expenditures not considered in the budget are to be reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee. The Budget & Finance Committee will submit to the Board of Directors its recommendation as to the appropriateness of the request. Material changes or expenditures will be defined as a budget variance being equal to or greater than 5% or \$15,000 of the negative net contribution to the project/event individual line item. Recognizing that there are circumstances that require emergency decisions, changes deemed as such, may be approved by the Executive Director or President within their authorization approval levels. (BOD 3/16)

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS (BOD 11/24)

POLICY 2.6

POLICY TITLE: INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

With respect to the management investment funds, the Executive Director shall manage such funds in accordance with the following Investment Guidelines which may be changed with Board of Director approval after prior approval of the Investment Advisory Group and Budget & Finance Committee. Investment funds include Board-designated reserves, unrestricted operations, and prize money programs.

1. Cash assets shall be invested in financial securities which provide a reasonable balance of principal preservation, capital appreciation, and income production. Such allowable investments include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Certificates of deposit with commercial banks or savings and loan institutions in amounts not more than the amount secured by insurance by an agency of the U.S. government.

- B. U.S. Treasury bills and U.S. Treasury notes.
- C. Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities issued by US government-sponsored enterprises. Such enterprises include, but are not limited to the bonds issued by:
 - Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp (“FHLMC” or “Freddie Mac”).
 - Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”).
 - Federal Home Loan Bank (“FHLB”).
 - Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA” or “Ginnie Mae”).
 - Federal Farm Credit Banks (“FFCB”).
- D. Money Market Securities issued by AHA’s preferred financial institutions. As of October 2024, these institutions include, but are not limited to:
 - Merrill Lynch.
 - Bank of America.
 - Wells Fargo.
 - U. S. Bank.
 - Royal Bank of Canada.
- E. Bond Exchange Traded Funds (“ETF”). As of October 2024, allowed bond ETFs include:
 - iShares 3-7 Year Treasury Bond ETF (“IEI”), which seeks to track the results of an index of US Treasury bonds with remaining maturities between 3 and 7 years.
 - iShares 0-5 Year Invest (“SLQD”), which seeks to track the results of an index of USD dollar investment-grade corporate bonds with remaining maturities of less than 5 years.
 - iShares 0-5 Year TIPS Bond ETF (“STIP”), which seeks to track the results of an index of inflation-protected US Treasury bonds with remaining maturities of less than 5 years.
 - PIMCO Investment Grade Corporate Bond Index ETF (“CORP”), which seeks to track the results of the ICE BofA US corporate debt securities with maturities of more than 1 year.
 - Vanguard Mortgage-Backed Securities ETF (“VMBS”), which seeks moderate & sustainable income from US agency mortgage-backed securities – such as GNMA, FNMA, FHLMC.
- F. Stock Exchange Traded Funds (“ETF”). As of October 2024, allowed stock ETFs include:
 - SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust (“SPY”), which seeks to track the results of the S&P 500 Index.
 - Invesco S&P 500 Low Volatility ETF (“SPLV”), which seeks to track the results of the S&P 500 Low Volatility Index – the stocks with the lowest volatility over the past 12 months.
 - iShares Preferred and Income Securities ETF (“PFF”), which seeks to track the results of an index of US dollar preferred and hybrid securities.

2. The maturity dates of any investments shall be monitored to ensure that liquid funds are available when required.

- A. Maturity dates. Maturity dates shall be managed so that budgeted cash outflows are covered by anticipated principal inflows and principal maturities.
- B. Early redemption. Early redemption of investments, which results in a decrease in the overall return rate, is to be avoided whenever possible by appropriately managing maturity dates. When an early redemption is required, the selection process should be based on preservation of principal and the level of interest & dividends being earned by the various approved investments.
- C. Investment parameters. Investment parameters should be defined by AHA management with the goal of making the necessity of early redemption an unlikely occurrence.

3. The priorities for individual investment decisions shall be as follows:

- A. Priority #1. Preservation of Principal.
- B. Priority #2. Ensuring adequate liquidity, as described in paragraph #2 above.

- C. Priority #3. Maximization of interest & dividend income.
- D. Priority #4. Staggering of maturity dates and call dates (when applicable) to protect against interest and dividend rate volatility, and call provisions.
- E. Priority #5. Investment security types and amounts will be diversified within the investment portfolio, so that interest & dividend rate exposure, call provision exposure, and liquidity exposure will be balanced within the portfolio, unless approved by the EC.

4. In compliance with the foregoing, the Executive Director shall develop investment parameters for cash determined to be available for investment.

- A. The investment parameters will be submitted to all investment consultants that have been approved by the EC, whole, except when:
- B. The Executive Director shall select the investment deemed to best match the investment parameters submitted and authorize the execution of the investment transaction by the approved investment consultant that submitted the investment alternative.

5. AHA will continue primary investing with its current broker Merrill Lynch (as of October 2024), as Merrill Lynch meets the Association's criteria for funds management.

- A. Should a change in investment brokers be considered, the Executive Committee shall review the recommendations for investment brokers, as submitted by the Executive Director. The Executive Committee shall identify which of these investment brokers should be used in the bid process.
- B. Not more than three investment brokerage firms shall be utilized at any given time to ensure that the investment consultants involved have sufficient stake in the process to encourage their best efforts, and to help ensure adequate and accurate record keeping and management of AHA assets.

6. The AHA President, with approval of the Executive Committee, shall establish an Investment Advisory Group. The AHA President shall appoint members to the AHA Investment Advisory Group. The investment Advisory Group is charged with the following functions:

- A. Review existing investments.
- B. Review potential future investments options.
- C. Review AHA's investment policy and investment strategies.
- D. Provide investment and policy recommendations to the AHA Executive Committee.

7. Combined investments shall be diversified among the following categories:

- Equities.
 - Target of 30% of combined investments, with an acceptable range at fair market value of 10-35%.
 - This category includes common stock ETFs and preferred stock ETFs.
- Fixed Income.
 - Target of 65% of combined investments, with an acceptable range of 55-75%.
 - This category includes US Treasuries, bond ETFs, money market securities, and directly held Agency bonds.
 - Investments in international fixed income securities are allowed, but only up to 5% of the total investment portfolio.
 - Investments in high yield fixed income securities are allowed, but only up to 5% of the total investment portfolio.
- Cash and equivalents.
 - Target of 5% of combined investments, with an acceptable range of 5-15%.
- Actual investment percentages may vary substantially by category over the course of the fiscal year, due to the Association's seasonal cash flows.

8. The AHA Budget and Finance Committee is charged with reviewing, at least yearly beginning

with the end of the 1st quarter, the investments proposed by the approved investment consultants and the investment selections made by the management of AHA. The results of these periodic reviews and any recommendations are to be submitted to the Executive Committee at its next scheduled meeting, or sooner if deemed appropriate by the Budget and Finance Committee. (Handbook Chapter 5, CBP 111.11)

9. AHA shall maintain separate investment accounts for designated fund functions. As of October 2024, the investment accounts include:
 - AHA unrestricted operations.
 - AHA cash reserve (aka “Rainy Day Fund”).
 - AHA legal defense.
 - Sweepstakes prize money.
 - Halter Futurities prize money.
 - Yearling Jackpot prize money.
10. AHA shall maintain a minimum of \$300,000 in the Wells Fargo operating account. The excess can be invested in T-Bills.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.7

POLICY TITLE: EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUCCESSION

In order to protect the Board from sudden loss of Executive Director services, the Executive Director shall ensure that at least one other member of the management team is sufficiently familiar with Board and Executive Director issues and processes to take over with reasonable proficiency as an interim successor. This will be reviewed each year at the first EC meeting following Jan 1st.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.8

POLICY TITLE: COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The Executive Director shall not cause or allow jeopardy to the Association’s fiscal integrity or public image when dealing with employment, compensation and benefits for employees, consultants, volunteers, or contractors.

Accordingly, he or she shall not:

1. Change his or her own compensation.
2. Change his or her own benefits, except as his or her benefits are consistent with a package for all other employees.
3. Promise or imply anything other than “at-will” employment.
4. Establish current compensation ranges and benefits that deviate materially from the geographic and/or professional market value for the skills employed (using Mountain States Employer

Council and/or ASAE salary surveys or comparable published entities).

5. Establish or change retirement benefits so as to cause unpredictable or inequitable situations.
6. Propose or implement any policies that are in violation of applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

Category II: MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS

POLICY 2.9

POLICY TITLE: COMMUNICATIONS & SUPPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director shall ensure the Executive Committee and Board of Directors are informed and supported in their work.

Accordingly, the Executive Director shall:

1. Report to the Executive Committee, in a timely manner, an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any governing policy.
2. Submit monitoring data required by the Executive Committee (see Monitoring Executive Director Performance policy 3.4) on time and in an accurate and understandable fashion, directly addressing provisions of the governing policies being monitored.
3. Inform the Executive Committee of significant incidental information, including but not limited to, anticipated adverse media coverage, threatened, or pending lawsuits, or material external and internal changes. Notification of planned material internal changes is to be provided to Executive Committee members in advance, when feasible.
4. Advise the Executive Committee if, in the Executive Director's opinion, the Executive Committee or Board of Directors is not in compliance with governing policies on Governance Process and Executive Committee-Management Delegation, particularly in the case of Executive Committee, or Executive Committee member, behavior that is detrimental to the working relationship between the Executive Committee and the Executive Director.
5. Provide the Executive Committee with all the necessary decision-making information required and inform the Executive Committee of relevant trends.
6. Present information in a clear and concise manner (summary) ensuring detailed information is available if requested.
7. Provide support for official Executive Committee, Board, officer or committee communications and functions.
 - A. The Executive Director shall provide secretarial and administrative support who shall be responsible to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for collating and distribution of Board and Executive Committee meeting agenda packets within the established deadlines; take the Minutes of Board and Executive Committee meetings and provide administrative support for official Board and Executive Committee functions.
8. When addressing official Executive Committee business deal with the Executive Committee as a whole except when:

- A. fulfilling individual requests for information, or
- B. responding to officers or committees duly charged by the Executive Committee.

9. Supply for the Executive Committee's consent agenda, along with applicable monitoring information, all decisions delegated to the Executive Director yet required by law, regulation, or contract to the Board or Executive Committee-approved.
10. Be responsible to develop a procedure to establish and provide metrics:
 - A. detailing his/her performance with regards to governing policies being monitored by the Executive Committee.
 - B. detailing departmental and/or organizational processes against established Ends (goals). These goals originate from the Executive Director bringing them to the Executive Committee.

Category III: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-MANAGEMENT DELEGATION

POLICY 3.0

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNANCE - MANAGEMENT CONNECTION

The Executive Committee's official connection to the operational organization, its achievements and conduct will be through an Executive Director.

Category III: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-MANAGEMENT DELEGATION

POLICY 3.1

POLICY TITLE: ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director is the only staff person accountable to the Executive Committee for operational achievement and conduct.

Accordingly:

1. The Executive Committee shall not give instructions to persons who report directly or indirectly to the Executive Director.
2. The Executive Committee shall not evaluate, either formally or informally, any staff other than the Executive Director.
3. The Executive Committee shall view Executive Director performance as identical to organizational performance, so that organizational accomplishment of the Executive Committee's stated Ends and compliance with Board and Management Policy Limitations will be deemed successful Executive Director performance.

Category III: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-MANAGEMENT DELEGATION

POLICY 3.2

POLICY TITLE: DELEGATION TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Committee shall instruct the Executive Director through written governing policies that prescribe the organizational Ends to be achieved, and describe organizational situations and actions to be avoided, allowing the Executive Director to use any reasonable interpretation of these policies.

Accordingly:

1. The Executive Committee shall develop and maintain Ends policies instructing the Executive Director to achieve certain results, for and on behalf of the membership, at a specified worth or priority. These policies will be developed systematically from the broadest, most general level to more defined levels. All issues that are not Ends issues as defined here are Means issues.
2. The Executive Committee shall develop and maintain Management Limitations policies that limit the latitude the Executive Director may exercise in choosing organizational means. These policies will be developed systematically from the broadest, most general level to more defined levels. To preserve accountability, the Executive Committee shall not prescribe organizational means delegated to the Executive Director.
3. The Executive Director is authorized to establish all operating policies, make operating decisions, establish operating practices, and pursue delegated activities, as long as such are consistent with a reasonable interpretation of the Executive Committee's Ends and Management Limitations policies.
4. The Executive Committee may change its Ends and Management Limitations policies, thereby shifting the boundary between Executive Committee and Executive Director domains. By doing so, the Executive Committee changes the latitude of choice given to the Executive Director. However, as long as any particular delegation is in place, the Executive Committee shall respect and support the Executive Director's choices that are compliant with a reasonable interpretation of those policies.

Category III: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-MANAGEMENT DELEGATION

POLICY 3.3

POLICY TITLE: MONITORING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE

The Executive Committee shall systematically and rigorously monitor the Executive Director's job performance to determine the extent to which Ends are being achieved and whether operational activities fall within boundaries established in Management Limitations policies.

Accordingly:

1. Monitoring is simply to determine the degree to which Executive Committee policies are being met. Information that does not address policy compliance will not be considered in the evaluation of Executive Director performance.

2. The Executive Committee shall acquire monitoring information by one or more of three methods:
 - A. by internal report, in which the Executive Director discloses, in writing, policy interpretations and compliance data to the Executive Committee
 - B. by external report, in which an external, disinterested third party selected by the Executive Committee assesses compliance with governing policies
 - C. by direct Executive Committee inspection, in which a designated member or members of the Executive Committee assess compliance with the appropriate policy criteria.
3. In every case, the Executive Committee shall judge whether (a) the Executive Director's interpretation is reasonable, and (b) whether data demonstrate accomplishment of or compliance with the Executive Director's interpretation.
4. In every case, the standard for compliance shall be any reasonable Executive Director interpretation of the governing policy being monitored. The Executive Committee is the final judge of reasonableness and will always judge with a "reasonable person" test (what a reasonably prudent person would do in that context).
5. All policies instructing the Executive Director shall be monitored at a frequency and by a method chosen by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may monitor any policy at any time by any method.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.0

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNANCE COMMITMENT

The purpose of the Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors to govern AHA's business operations, is to ensure that the Arabian Horse Association (1) achieves appropriate results for its membership at an appropriate cost (as specified in Board Ends policies), and (2) avoids unacceptable actions and situations.

1. The AHA Board of Directors delegates to the Executive Committee the authority to manage the business operations of the Association.
2. The business operations of AHA are defined as those relating to the financial operation, legal and business regulatory operational matters, administrative and staff functions. Business operations are further defined in policy adopted by the Board of Directors.
3. The limitations that the Board of Directors places on the authority of the Executive Committee are to be set forth in the policy directives approved by the Board of Directors as same may be modified from time-to-time by the Board of Directors.
4. The existing AHA policies concerning the role of the Board of Directors relating to employment of the Executive Director and approval of the annual budget are not modified by this action.
5. The AHA Board of Directors by a 2/3 vote may terminate the delegation of authority to the Executive Committee. (BOD 11/07)

Refer to AHA Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3, Paragraph d. (Res. 5-14)

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.1

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNING STYLE & VALUES

To fulfill its governance role on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee commits to acting lawfully, observing Policy Governance principles, with an emphasis on (a) results for members, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership rather than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of Executive Committee/Board and chief executive roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, (f) future rather than past or present, and (g) governing proactively rather than reactively.

Accordingly:

1. The Executive Committee shall cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Executive Committee, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Executive Committee shall be the initiator of governing policy. The Executive Committee shall not use the expertise of individual members to substitute for its judgment, although such expertise may be used to enhance the understanding of the Executive Committee as a body.
2. The Executive Committee shall direct, control and inspire the Arabian Horse Association's business operations through the careful establishment of broad written policies. The Executive Committee's major focus will be on the Association's intended long-term impacts, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
3. The Executive Committee shall enforce upon itself whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continual development of governance skills. Although the Executive Committee can change its governance process policies at any time, it will scrupulously observe those currently in place.
4. All policies of the Executive Committee are contained in this document, and they remain in effect, unless amended or deleted by Executive Committee action.
5. The Executive Committee shall orient new Executive Committee members in its governance process and these policies.
6. The Executive Committee shall not allow any officer, individual or committee of the Executive Committee to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments on behalf of the AHA Board of Directors.
7. The Executive Committee shall monitor and discuss its process and performance at each meeting. Self-monitoring will include comparison of Executive Committee activity and discipline to Governance Process and Executive Committee-Management Delegation policies.
8. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the Association's activities, with the exception of personnel or other matters of a sensitive nature, shall be open and accessible to reasonable scrutiny by AHA's membership.
9. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the Association, in its hiring and other activities, will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, national origin, religion, age, handicap, political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, or marital, parental, or military status.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.2

POLICY TITLE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JOB DESCRIPTION

On behalf of the Arabian Horse Association Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall ensure appropriate performance of AHA's business operations by assuming direct responsibility for the following:

1. The Executive Committee shall produce:
 - A. **Needs Assessment:** In addition to consultations with the Board of Directors and contact with the Membership, Delegates, and Annual Convention, the Executive Committee shall assess the needs of AHA's membership as they relate to the Association's activities and scope of influence and will develop Ends policies identifying the results the organization is to produce in addressing those needs.
 - B. **Advocacy:** The Executive Committee shall be accountable to the membership regarding the organization's expected future results, and its present accomplishments.
2. The Executive Committee shall develop and maintain written governing policies consistent with Board of Directors policy.
 - A. **ENDS:** Organizational products, their effects, and benefits, to our members and horses and their relative worth.
 - B. **MANAGEMENT LIMITATIONS:** Constraints on executive authority that establish the prudence and ethics boundaries within which all executive activity and decisions must take place.
 - C. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/MANAGEMENT DELEGATION:** How authority is delegated to the Executive Director and his/her authority and accountability is properly monitored.
3. The Executive Committee shall retain, set forth terms of employment and oversee the Executive Director, and will assure successful Executive Director performance by assessing actual performance against policies on Ends and Management Limitations.
4. The Executive Committee shall approve an annual budget and submit it to the Board of Directors for approval prior to the start of the next fiscal year.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.3

POLICY TITLE: AGENDA PLANNING

The Executive Committee shall prepare and follow an annual work-plan that includes (1) a complete review and, if appropriate, refinement of Ends policies and (2) continuous improvement in governance performance through governance education, enriched input, and deliberation.

Accordingly:

1. The Executive Committee's annual planning cycle will conclude each year no later than 2 weeks prior to the first day of Budget & Finance Committee's annual budget meeting, so that administrative planning and budgeting can be based on accomplishing a one-year segment of

long-term Ends.

2. The Executive Committee's planning cycle will start in April with the development of its work-plan for the next Fiscal year.
 - A. The Executive Committee shall identify its priorities for Ends and other issues to be resolved in the coming year and will identify the information gathering necessary to fulfill its role. This may include consultations with selected groups in the membership, meetings with other entities in the equine industry, other methods of gaining membership input, governance education, and other education related to Ends issues.
 - B. The President shall, at the commencement of the Executive Committee's annual planning cycle, prepare a tentative agenda plan for the following year's meetings.
3. The President shall determine the agenda for any Executive Committee meeting, although Executive Committee members may request or recommend any appropriate matters for Executive Committee consideration.
 - A. An Executive Committee member may recommend or request a matter for Executive Committee discussion by submitting the item to the President at least 20 days prior to the scheduled Executive Committee meeting.
 - B. The meeting agenda and packet are to be received by Executive Committee members at least 14 days prior to the scheduled Executive Committee meeting.
 - C. By an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee, or of those present at a meeting, additional matters may be added to the agenda of any Executive Committee meeting.
4. The Executive Committee shall attend to consent agenda items (those items delegated to the Executive Director yet required by law or third-party to be Board-approved) as expeditiously as possible.
5. The Executive Committee shall act to approve/disapprove Executive Director monitoring reports received since the previous meeting. Additional Executive Director monitoring will be on the agenda if the Board, for any reason, chooses to arrange for direct inspection or third-party monitoring, or otherwise amend its monitoring schedule.
Executive Director remuneration will be determined in connection with the anniversary of hire date after a review and summary of monitoring actions taken during the past twelve months.)

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.4

POLICY TITLE: PRESIDENT'S AND OFFICERS ROLE

As the Association's top-elected officer, the President shall serve as its chief governance officer, ensuring the integrity of the Board's and Executive Committee's process and, secondarily, representing the Membership, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee to outside parties.

Accordingly:

1. The President's shall ensure that the Board and Executive Committee behave consistently with the Bylaws, their respective governing policies, and those legitimately imposed from outside the organization.
 - A. Executive Committee meeting discussion content will include only those issues that clearly,

according to Executive Committee policy, belong to the Executive Committee to decide or to monitor.

B. Deliberation will be fair, open, thorough, timely, orderly, and to the point.

2. In the governance of AHA's business operations, the President is authorized to make decisions consistent with the Executive Committee's Governance Process and Board/Management Delegation policies. The President is hereby delegated the authority to use any reasonable interpretation of these policies.

- A. The President is empowered to preside at Membership, Delegates, Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings with all the commonly accepted power of that position. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall serve as the rules of order for meetings of the Membership, Delegates and Board of Directors.
- B. The President may represent the Board and Executive Committee to outside parties in announcing Board-stated or Executive Committee-stated positions and in stating decisions and interpretations within the area delegated to her or him. The President may delegate this authority but remains accountable for its use.
- C. The President may appoint members to serve on Committees, unless specified otherwise in Bylaws or Board policies.
- D. The President, with approval of the Executive Committee, be delegated the authority to authorize payments for emergency funding up to \$25,000 to cover non-budgeted "emergency expenditures". The funds may come from the General Fund, or the Cash Reserve Account (All CRA policies apply) as determined by the Executive Committee (BOD 03/14)

Powers and Duties of Officers. (Bylaws & Merger Agreement)

The President serves as the chief governing officer of the Association. The President ensures the fulfillment of the Board's governance obligations and fiduciary duties, presides at meetings of the Board and Membership, and shall fulfill other responsibilities as may be designated from time to time by the Board in its Governing Policies, or as designated by resolution.

- A. The President, unless otherwise specified, shall be the official spokesperson of the Association's Membership and Board of Directors. The President's authority to speak and/or make decisions on behalf of the Board is subject to the direction of the Board of Directors, as stated in its Governing Policies.
- B. Vice-President. In the event the President is absent, unable or refuses to act, the Vice-President shall fulfill the duties of the President. The Vice-President shall also fulfill other responsibilities as may be delegated by the Board of Directors in its Governing Policies.
- C. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall advise and update the Board and committees on matters of fiscal policy and shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board's Audit Committee.
- D. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept at the principal office of the Association the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of all meetings of the Membership and shall ensure the accuracy of the effective Governing Policies manual of the Board. The Secretary shall perform or cause to be performed such other and further duties as may be required by law or as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors or these Bylaws.
- E. Two At-Large Vice-Presidents shall represent the interests of purebred Arabian Horses and seek to aid, promote, and foster the preservation of the unique qualities of the purebred Arabian Horse Breed. The At-Large Vice Presidents shall recommend, encourage, and support Arabian Horse Association's involvement in all activities and undertakings incidental to or designed to further, promote or grow the purebred Arabian Horse Breed consistent with the best interests of the

purebred Arabian Horse.

- F. The Past-President shall assume responsibility to the Executive Committee of providing historical business perspective to ensure successful turnover of authority and business continuity.
- G. Executive Director - The Board of Directors shall employ an Executive Director, with terms of employment as the Executive Committee shall determine, and as the Executive Committee may set forth in an Employment Agreement. The Executive Director shall have the authority and responsibility for the day- to-day operations of the Association, in accordance with these Bylaws and the Governing Policies of the Board as amended from time to time. The Executive Director shall be responsible for the employment of staff in a manner consistent with the Governing Policies. The Executive Director shall be ex-officio, non- voting member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.5

POLICY TITLE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

The Executive Committee commits itself and its members to ethical, professional, and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as Executive Committee members.

Accordingly:

- 1. Executive Committee members must demonstrate loyalty to the interests of AHA's membership, un- conflicted by loyalties to staff, other organizations, sectors/regions within the membership or any personal interests as customers/members of the Association.
- 2. Executive Committee members must avoid conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
 - A. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Executive Committee member and the organization, except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to inside information.
 - B. When the Executive Committee is to decide upon an issue about which a member has a conflict of interest, that member shall disclose the conflict to the Executive Committee and absent herself or himself without comment from not only the vote but also from the deliberation.
 - C. Executive Committee members must not use their positions to obtain staff employment for themselves, family members or close associates. Should an Executive Committee member apply for staff employment, he or she must first resign from the Executive Committee.
- 3. Executive Committee members must not attempt to exercise individual authority over the organization.
 - A. Executive Committee members' interaction with the Executive Director or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individuals except when explicitly Executive Committee authorized.

- B. Executive Committee members' interaction with public, media or other entities must recognize this limitation and that Executive Committee members are not to speak for the Executive Director, or to speak for the Executive Committee except to repeat explicitly stated Executive Committee decisions.
- C. Except for participation in Executive Committee deliberation about whether the Executive Director has achieved a reasonable interpretation of Executive Committee policies, Executive Committee members will not publicly express individual judgments of performance of employees or the Executive Director.
- 4. Executive Committee members must respect confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
- 5. Executive Committee members shall support the legitimacy and authority of the final determination of the Executive Committee on any matter, regardless of the member's personal position on the issue.
- 6. Executive Committee Members shall not cause nor participate in any practice, activity or circumstance that is unlawful under prevailing antitrust laws, regulations or applicable court decisions that affect the Arabian Horse Association.
- 7. An Executive Committee member aware of credible information that suggests that a governing policy has been violated, by either the Executive Committee, the Board, or the Executive Director, has an affirmative obligation to bring the concern to the Executive Committee's agenda for monitoring.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.6

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNING COMMITTEES

A committee is a governing committee only if its existence and charge come from the Executive Committee, regardless of whether its composition includes Executive Committee or Board members. The only governing committees are those which are set forth in this policy. Unless otherwise specified, the Executive Director, or his/her staff designee, will serve as a non-voting member of each committee.

- A. Deliverables
 - 1. Annual recommendation of engagement with an outside auditor to assess, in addition to a standard GAAP Audit, the operating organization's performance with specific governing policies.
 - 2. Recommendation to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for engagement of auditor by no later than the Executive Committee meeting held at the Annual Convention of each year.
 - 3. Review of the Monthly financials engaging the Treasurer and AHA Controller.
- B. Authority: To recommend to the Board of Directors the engagement of an outside auditor.
- C. Composition: 3 Board of Director members elected by the Board of Directors; Every audit committee member must be a member of the Board of Directors

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.7

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNING COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES

The Audit Committee and other committees established by the Executive Committee, when used, will have one essential role -- to strengthen and support the governance work of the Executive Committee as a whole. These "governing committees" are not to interfere with delegation from Executive Committee to the Executive Director, or from the Executive Director to other staff.

Accordingly,

1. Governing committees are to help the Executive Committee do its job, not to help, advise or exercise authority over staff.
2. Governing committees most commonly assist the Executive Committee by undertaking activities not delegated to the Executive Director, by preparing policy alternatives and implications for Executive Committee deliberation, or by performing specific monitoring functions. Governing committees will normally not have direct involvement with current staff operations.
3. Governing committees may not speak or act for the Executive Committee except when formally given such authority for specific and/or time-limited purposes. The Executive Committee shall carefully state its expectations and committee authority (in the "Governing Committees" policy) in order not to conflict with authority delegated to the Executive Director.
4. Governing committees must not exercise authority over staff. Because the Executive Director works for the Executive Committee, he or she shall not be expected to obtain approval of a governing committee before an executive action.
5. This policy applies to any group formed by Executive Committee action, whether or not it is called a committee and regardless of whether the group includes Executive Committee and/or Board members. It does not apply to committees formed under the authority of the Executive Director.

Category IV: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY 4.8

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNANCE BUDGET

The Executive Committee shall consciously invest in its ability to govern competently and wisely.

Accordingly:

1. Executive Committee skills, methods, and supports will be sufficient to assure governing with excellence.
 - A. The Executive Committee shall invest in governance to orient new Executive Committee members, and to maintain and increase existing Board member skills and knowledge.
 - B. Outside monitoring assistance, including fiscal audit, will be arranged as needed so that the Executive Committee can exercise confident control over organizational performance.

- C. Outreach/linkage mechanisms (e.g., surveys) will be used as needed to ensure the Executive Committee understands membership viewpoints and values.
2. Costs will be prudently incurred, but sufficient to ensure the development and maintenance of superior governance. Prior to the Executive Director's development of the annual budget, the Executive Committee shall establish its governance budget for the next year, considering but not limited to items such as:
 - A. Governance training and consultation, including publications.
 - B. Executive Committee and Officers travel/reimbursements (attendance at conferences, workshops, Board meetings, etc.)
 - C. Audit and other third-party monitoring of organizational performance.
 - D. Executive Committee-initiated surveys, focus groups and opinion analyses.
 - E. Executive Committee-hosted ownership linkage/outreach events.
 - F. Governance committee(s) functions.
3. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall also ensure that the annual Budget provides adequate funding for Board of Directors functions, as well as the Executive Committee's own governance functions.

Revised 1/10/25

***“There is something about the outside of a horse
that is good for the inside of a man”***

- Sir Winston Churchill